

**NHL**  
Predominantly  
white league  
confronts racism  
**Back page**



**NATION**  
High court decision  
on LGBTQ protections  
does not cover military  
**Page 11**

**FACES**  
Queen Latifah:  
Let 'Gone with the  
Wind' be gone  
**Page 15**



**Army starts new fitness test Oct. 1, but scores won't count » Page 3**

# STARS AND STRIPES®

stripes.com

Volume 79, No. 43 ©SS 2020

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2020

平成32年4月1日 第三種郵便物認可 日刊(土日除く)  
発行所 星条旗新聞社 〒106-0032 東京都港区六本木7丁目23番17号 定価 ¥50

50¢/Free to Deployed Areas



KIM IN-CHUL, YONHAP/AP

South Korean Marines patrol on Yeonpyeong Island, South Korea, on Tuesday. North Korea blew up an inter-Korean liaison office building just north of the heavily armed border with South Korea on Tuesday in a display of anger that raises tensions on the peninsula.

## An escalation of tensions

North Korea blows up joint liaison office near border with South Korea

By KIM GAMEL AND YOO KYONG CHANG  
*Stars and Stripes*

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea blew up a joint liaison office near the border with South Korea on Tuesday in one of the most provocative acts by the communist state since nuclear talks with the United

States collapsed last year.

Seoul warned it would "strongly respond" to further provocations, marking a sharp escalation of tensions triggered by the dispatch of anti-regime leaflets by activists.

In an unusually fast report on state-run media, North Korea confirmed that it had demolished the liaison office with a "terrific

explosion" to punish the South for the propaganda leaflets that were floated across the border earlier this month.

Smoke rose from the area, which is on the North Korean side of the Demilitarized Zone, photos by South Korea's Yonhap News Agency showed.

**SEE TENSIONS ON PAGE 6**

## NATO chief: No firm plans for US pullout from Germany

By JOHN VANDIVER  
*Stars and Stripes*

STUTTGART, Germany — U.S. plans to cut force levels in Germany haven't been finalized, NATO's top official said Tuesday ahead of high-level talks that will likely center on President Donald Trump's push for a large troop pullout.

"The U.S. has made it clear no final decision has been made on how and when," NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said at a news conference, adding that he discussed the matter with Trump last week by phone.



Stoltenberg

The U.S. ambassador to NATO, Kay Bailey Hutchison, also told reporters Tuesday that the drawdown plan will take time to execute.

"I don't think anything has been set in concrete yet," she said.

On Monday, Trump confirmed that he intends to pull 9,500 troops from Germany, reducing American force levels in the country by nearly one-third.

The drawdown would be the largest troop reduction in Europe in nearly a decade and the first major cut since Russia's 2014 military intervention in Ukraine.

The Wall Street Journal, which first reported Trump's directive, initially said a September deadline was set for the pullout. But meeting that timeline would be a daunting task. The U.S. military would be forced to find new assignments and homes for thousands of troops and their families, even while clearing a large backlog of troops waiting to move, created by coronavirus restrictions.

**SEE GERMANY ON PAGE 6**

## BUSINESS/WEATHER

## EU opens antitrust probes into Apple

Associated Press

LONDON — European Union authorities have opened antitrust investigations into Apple's App Store and its payments platform over concerns that its practices stifle competition.

The EU's executive Commission said it launched an investigation of Apple Pay over allegations that the U.S. tech giant refuses access to the payment system in some cases and concerns that it limits access to the "tap and go"

function on iPhones.

The Commission opened a second investigation into the mobile App Store over concerns that Apple restricts developers from letting iPhone and iPad users know about ways to make purchases outside of apps.

The investigation follows complaints from music streaming service Spotify and an e-book distributor on the impact of the App Store's rules on the competition. EU Executive Vice President

Margrethe Vestager said that "it appears that Apple obtained a 'gatekeeper' role when it comes to the distribution of apps and content to users of Apple's popular devices."

It also appeared that Apple set conditions on how Apple Pay should be used in merchants' apps and websites, she said.

"It is important that Apple's measures do not deny consumers the benefits of new payment technologies," Vestager said.

## EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (June 17)	\$1.11
Dollar buys (June 17)	€0.8605
British pound (June 17)	\$1.23
Japanese yen (June 17)	¥104.00
South Korean won (June 17)	₩1,178.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3776
British pound	\$1.2624
Canada (Dollar)	1.3523
China (Yuan)	7.0816
Denmark (Krone)	6.6157
Egypt (Pound)	16.1793
Hong Kong (Dollar)	\$1.1270/0.8873
Hungary (Forint)	7.7501
Israel (Shekel)	366.25
Japan (Yen)	107.43
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3076
Norway (Krone)	9.4901
Philippines (Peso)	50.09
Poland (Zloty)	3.93
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7514
South Korea (Dollar)	1.3814
South Korea (Won)	1,210.34

Switzerland (Franc)	0.9496
Thailand (Baht)	31.08
Turkey (Lira)	6.8469

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

## INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	0.25
Federal funds market rate	0.06
3-month bill	0.17
30-year bond	1.95

## WEATHER OUTLOOK

## WEDNESDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



## WEDNESDAY IN EUROPE



## THURSDAY IN THE PACIFIC



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

## TODAY

IN STRIPES

American Roundup ..... 14  
Classified ..... 13  
Comics ..... 19  
Crossword ..... 19  
Faces ..... 15  
Opinion ..... 16-17  
Sports ..... 20-24

## STARS AND STRIPES

However you read us,  
wherever you need us.

Mobile • Online • Print

## EUROPE

## ADVERTISING

KRISTI KIMMEL

CustomerService@stripes.com

+49 (0) 0631.3615.9111  
DSN: 314.583.9111

## MIDDLE EAST

## ADVERTISING

KRISTI KIMMEL

CustomerService@stripes.com

+49 (0) 0631.3615.9111  
DSN: 314.583.9111

## PACIFIC

## ADVERTISING

ICHIRO KATAYANAGI

PacificAdvertising@stripes.com

CML +81 (42) 552.2511 ext. 77313  
DSN: 227.7313

## TURUMI LODGE

OSAN AIR BASE, KOREA

Do you have friends & family visiting soon? Or do you just need a time out? Make reservations at the most comfortable and affordable place in town. Room rate from \$70.00 to \$83.00 per night.

Space Available reservations can be made for up to 120 day in advance.

Turumi Lodge operation 24 hours, 7 days a week.

DSN: 315-784-1844 Comm: 82-31-661-1844

E-mail: turumilodge.reservat@us.af.mil

www.dodlodging.net www.51fss.com



BEST IN PACAF  
2009, 2010,  
2011,  
2012

Conference Room  
Meeting Room  
24 hour Dn & Launch Service  
Business Center  
Fitness Room

## MILITARY

# Deadline slides, but push still on

## Scores won't count right away on delayed Army Combat Fitness Test

By COREY DICKSTEIN  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Army will adopt its long-planned, six-event physical fitness test as its official evaluation on Oct. 1, but with fitness testing suspended amid the coronavirus pandemic, service leaders said soldiers' scores will not count for some time.

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Michael Grinston announced the shift to the Army Combat Fitness Test on Monday in a move that means most soldiers will never again have to take the 4-decade-old Army Physical Fitness Test. While the ACFPT will become the test of record for soldiers on Oct. 1, the Army is still working to finalize the evaluation, Grinston said.

"We're going to have to take physical fitness tests once we come out of this [pandemic-caused] pause," he told reporters Monday during a news briefing. "As we begin anew... we wanted to go to the new Army Combat Fitness Test, and pretty much the goal for this year is just to take the test."

The Army initially planned for the new test to be fully implemented by Oct. 1, but with soldiers locked down under stop-movement orders and many of them teleworking, the service indefinitely paused its physical evaluation requirements in March and announced it would hold off on officially implementing the new evaluation.

The pandemic also stopped the Army from completing a second round of testing meant to evaluate ACFPT scoring and the initial set of standards it rolled out last year.

Once restrictions are lifted, Grinston said, the Army will use information it gathers from soldiers conducting the new test after Oct. 1 to help with any adjustments that still need to be made. For now, the scores will not be used to assess soldiers in any official manner, including on annual evaluations.

"It will not be used for any flagging or adverse action," Grinston said. "If you don't pass the test, you will not be separated from the military, at all."

The Army will reevaluate when it will restart the requirement of passing physical fitness tests to remain in the service. The Army has tentatively marked March 2022 as the time when soldiers must be able to pass the new test, but Grinston said that could change to an earlier or later date.

The Army is making at least one other adjustment to the test — adding an alternative to its leg tuck event, which primarily tests core strength. The service will allow soldiers who cannot do a leg tuck to instead complete a two-minute plank, Grinston said.

The plank is only meant to be an alternative for a short time, as Army leaders believe the leg tuck and the test's other five events can be completed by any soldier in the proper health to serve.

"What the leg tuck does that the plank doesn't is they both work the core muscles, but where the leg tuck benefits over the plank, it is does hips and it does shoulders," said Maj. Gen. Lonnie G. Hibbard, commander of the U.S. Army Center for Initial Military Training. "So that complex exercise (the leg tuck) gets after many more common soldier tasks and warrior tasks."

The plank is the second alternative event the Army has approved. It approved a stationary bike ride in place of the 2-mile run event for soldiers with permanent medical profiles that prohibit



ASTRID OJEDA/U.S. Army

**Army Sgt. 1st Class Phelps gives instructions on the Army Combat Fitness Test on Camp Humphreys, South Korea, in May. The Army initially planned for the new test to be fully implemented by Oct. 1.**

minute plank, Grinston said.

The plank is only meant to be an alternative for a short time, as Army leaders believe the leg tuck and the test's other five events can be completed by any soldier in the proper health to serve.

"What the leg tuck does that the plank doesn't is they both work the core muscles, but where the leg tuck benefits over the plank, it is does hips and it does shoulders," said Maj. Gen. Lonnie G. Hibbard, commander of the U.S. Army Center for Initial Military Training. "So that complex exercise (the leg tuck) gets after many more common soldier tasks and warrior tasks."

The plank is the second alternative event the Army has approved. It approved a stationary bike ride in place of the 2-mile run event for soldiers with permanent medical profiles that prohibit

them from running too far. The bike ride initially was planned for a 15,000 meter ride but has since been dropped to a 12,000 meter ride, Army officials said.

The new test's other four events are deadlifts, a standing power throw, hand-release pushups and the sprint-drag-carry. Army officials spent years evaluating tasks soldiers typically do in combat — like loading rounds into cannons or tanks, dragging a wounded comrade, or moving across a battlefield — to develop the new test, which they say better correlates to those activities than the old, three-event test.

Soldiers have long expressed concern about the equipment needed to complete the ACFPT, which includes a deadlift bar, a pullup bar, a weight sled and a medicine ball. Without access to the equipment, they cannot train

for all events, troops have said.

The Army has acknowledged that issue. Hibbard said Monday that about 95% of the needed equipment has been distributed throughout the Army, though some of it might not have reached smaller units yet.

The general also said some 200,000 soldiers will have completed the new test by Oct. 1. Of those, some 135,000 are new soldiers who have been training on it since October as recruits.

Grinston said the Army had seen practice scores improving in the months before the coronavirus pandemic.

"This is going to make us stronger and make us a healthier Army," the sergeant major said. "We just need to evolve and progress. This is good for the Army."

dickstein.corey@stripes.com  
Twitter: @CDicksteinDC

# UN: Afghanistan conflict still world's deadliest for children

By PHILLIP WALTER WELLMAN  
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — The war in Afghanistan was the world's deadliest conflict for children last year, the fifth consecutive year the country has held that status, a United Nations report said.

Some 874 children were killed by the war throughout 2019. They were among the 3,410 young Afghans who suffered from "grave violations," which included maiming, abduction, sexual abuse and attacks at schools and hospitals, the report released Monday said.

The Taliban were blamed for causing over 1,238 child deaths and injuries, the largest number attributed to any single group.

Pro-government forces were blamed for just under a third of the child deaths and injuries documented, including 248 that were attributed to international forces. "I'm extremely concerned about the increased number of



PHILLIP WALTER WELLMAN/Stars and Stripes

**A young Afghan boy tends to a goat in Kandahar province in April 2019. The Afghanistan War remains the world's deadliest conflict for children, according to a United Nations report released Monday.**

children killed and maimed by all parties," U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said about Afghanistan in the annual Children in Armed Conflict report. "I remain concerned about casualties

caused by government and international forces, and I urge them to review, strengthen and implement current tactical protocols to prevent them."

The report noted measures

taken by international forces to protect Afghan civilians from combat and the decreased number of child casualties from airstrikes. Steps taken by the Afghan government to prevent child recruitment were also lauded in the report.

However, a combined 64 boys — some as young as 10 — were still recorded as being recruited by the Taliban, Afghan National Police and pro-government militias last year. The boys were used for combat support and sexual purposes, the report said.

The Taliban and pro-government forces were both blamed for sexually abusing children, which the U.N. identifies as any-one below age 18. Two boys were said to be used as "bacha bazi," a term used to describe boys used for sex acts by older men, which has a long history in the country.

Afghanistan, along with Syria, Palestine and Somalia, were named the top places in the world where children had been deprived

of education and health care because of attacks or closures of facilities for military use.

Afghan children were also among the over 2,500 said to be detained for alleged or actual association with armed groups like Islamic State.

Detained children must be treated as victims, and any incarceration should be short and used as a last resort, Virginia Gamba, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, said in a statement.

Globally, the U.N. verified over 25,000 grave violations against children in armed conflict, equal to roughly 70 per day, and similar to 2018's total.

Citing 4,400 verified global incidents, the report revealed a 400% jump in the denial of humanitarian access to children last year, which Gamba called "by far [the] most worrisome trend in 2019."

welldman.phillip@stripes.com  
Twitter: @ppwelldman



## PACIFIC

# USS John S. McCain is ready to carry on

By CAITLIN DOORNBOS

Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — The USS John S. McCain is ready for business again, nearly three years after a fatal collision that killed 10 of its sailors and left it heavily damaged, its commander said Tuesday.

The guided-missile destroyer completed “basic phase certification” on June 2, concluding major repairs and crew training based on new procedures put in place after two deadly collisions involving U.S. warships in 2017.

“Every day as I walk onto the ship through the portside airlock, I pass the memorial plaque that is engraved with the names of the 10 sailors who lost their lives on this ship in 2017,” Cmdr. Ryan Easterday told reporters during a conference call. “Frankly, everything we’ve done since then honors their memories and, more importantly, carries on their work.”

The McCain has been sidelined since Aug. 21, 2017, when it collided with a Liberian-flagged tanker, the Alnic MC, in the Strait of Malacca near Singapore.

The McCain collision was the second involving a 7th Fleet warship that year. On June 17, 2017, seven sailors died aboard the USS Fitzgerald when it collided with a Philippine-flagged container ship, ACX Crystal, about 80 miles southwest of Tokyo.

The Fitzgerald, under repair at a Mississippi shipyard since January 2018, left for San Diego, its new homeport, on Saturday. There, it will undergo training and certifications similar to those the McCain completed before becoming available for operations, the Navy said.

To certify as mission-ready, the McCain crew trained in 23 areas from seamanship to engineering as part of the Navy’s revised training and readiness cycle, the result of a post-collision report on both collisions, Easterday said.

The report found that the crashes were “avoidable” and identified several contributing causes, including training issues and poor watch-standing. At the time, ships often went to sea despite having fallen behind on required maintenance and mandatory crew training.

Easterday said that the new training cycle also incorporates “the latest innovations in training technology and standards” based on the report’s recommendations.

“The John S. McCain is one of the first ships to benefit from these changes, including revised individual and unit training, updated career paths and practices and renewed focus on professional seamanship and navigation,” he said.

The crew trained in classrooms, in simulators, in port and at sea, Easterday said. The destroyer left Yokosuka in October for brief at-sea testing and again in March for underway drills.

The March period at sea was supposed to last 10 days but stretched into early April after the coronavirus outbreak reached Yokosuka while it was gone, he said.

Crewmembers “have proven that Big Bad John is absolutely ready to rejoin the fleet,” he told reporters.

Easterday came aboard the McCain in December 2017 as executive officer and has played an essential role in bringing the ship back into service since then. His predecessor and the then-commanding officer were relieved after the collision.

“This tour is not the tour that I expected when I was talking to my wife in 2016 about coming to Japan ... but this experience is absolutely one of the most rewarding experiences I have ever had,” he said.

About 10% of the current crew was aboard the destroyer during the 2017 collision — “all volun-



PHOTOS BY TAYLOR DiMARTINO/U.S. Navy

**An MH-60R Seahawk lands aboard the guided-missile destroyer USS John S. McCain in the Philippine Sea last month.**

teers who decided they wanted to stick it out and see the ship back to sea,” Easterday said.

“It’s been a pretty intense experience for most of them, I think,” he said.

“They have bound together through the repair period, and even more so through the last six months of basic phase,” he said. “They’re hungry, they’re eager to learn and they’re getting really, really good at it.”

The Navy does not disclose ship movements. When the McCain deploys again, Easterday said, the fallen sailors’ memory will be carried with it.

“Our successes are their legacy, and I’m absolutely confident in saying that Big Bad John is back, and we are more ready and more lethal than ever before,” he said.

doorbos.caitlin@stars.com  
Twitter: @CaitlinDoorbnos



**The McCain completed basic phase certification on June 2.**

## Australian shipbuilder teams with US firm in bid to take over shipyard

By SETH ROBSON

Stars and Stripes

An Australian shipbuilder with strong ties to the Navy is favored to assume control of the Philippines’ Subic Bay shipyard, where it plans to build and service United States warships.

Austral, based in Western Australia, and U.S. private equity firm Cerberus Capital Management are in the running to take over the yard from Hanjin Shipping, a South Korean firm that went bankrupt in 2016. Subic Bay was a key U.S. base for decades before the Navy’s departure in 1992.

A pair of Chinese companies signaled interest in Subic Bay last year, but media reports suggest that the Austral-Cerberus bid may be the strongest.

“It’s not going to be a U.S. naval base like it was, but it would be a

U.S./Australian company doing business to support both the U.S. and Philippine navies, as well as countries in the region,” Austral’s customer affairs and business development director, Lawrence Ryder, said in a telephone interview June 8.

The Sydney Morning Herald in a May 8 article noted the company’s interest in Subic Bay and its hopes to build the first six of 18 offshore patrol boats for the Philippines, a project worth \$950 million.

Austral’s partner in the prospective Subic deal, Cerberus, has \$42 billion in assets, including two U.S. defense firms, CEO Stephen Feinberg was considered by President Donald Trump for a top job at the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, according to the New York Times in April.

Nikkei Asian Review reported in December that Hanjin de-

faulted on \$1.3 billion in loans and that Austral’s offer is subject to negotiations with the 340-acre shipyard’s creditors. Before the yard’s collapse, Hanjin invested \$2.3 billion in Subic, according to the newspaper.

Robert Empedrad, the head of the Philippine Maritime Industry Authority since March, told Nikkei in the same article that the Navy backs the Austral-Cerberus consortium and opposes any Chinese takeover. At the time, Empedrad was a vice admiral and chief of the Philippine Navy.

“The U.S. and Australia are good friends of our country,” he said, according to the newspaper. “They are allies of our country. I have a very good relationship with the chief of the U.S. Navy and the chief of the Australian Navy.”

The U.S. Embassy in Manila did not respond to emailed questions about the move.

Ryder said Monday that he couldn’t comment on negotiations other than to say that the company is in discussions about expanding its capability in the region.

Austral is looking at options in the region to support the U.S. Navy and the ships that the company has built and delivered to the Navy, he said, adding that it hopes to set up a maintenance facility for ships of the U.S. Navy and Military Sealift Command. Austral also wants to establish a facility to build new vessels.

The harbor at Subic Bay was home to thousands of U.S. sailors and their families before the Navy left. It’s still a regular port call for U.S. warships and Marines who practice beach landings nearby in Zambales province.

Subic’s importance has grown in recent years amid Chinese efforts to build military facilities on artificial islands and claim sover-

eignty over territory to the west in the South China Sea.

Austral operates a shipyard in both Australia and, under a special security agreement, in Mobile, Ala., where it builds littoral combat ships and expeditionary fast transport ships for the U.S. Navy.

The company already has an extensive operation on the fringes of the South China Sea to include shipyards in Vietnam, at Cebu in the Philippines and a service center in Singapore, where the littoral combat ship USS Gabrielle Giffords is deployed.

“It’s a significant expansion,” Ryder said of the potential move into Subic. “We are really focused on that region. The Navy has focused there, so it’s natural for us to align and support that.”

robson.seth@stars.com  
Twitter: @SethRobson1

## PACIFIC

# Japan suspends Aegis Ashore deployment

BY MATTHEW M. BURKE  
AND AYA ICHIHASHI  
Stars and Stripes

Japan, citing technical problems and cost overruns, has suspended plans to field a U.S.-developed ballistic missile defense system once seen as a counterpoint to North Korea's evolving arsenal.

Japanese Minister of Defense Taro Kono announced he is freezing procurement of Aegis Ashore systems for Japan Self-Defense Force bases in Yamaguchi and Akita prefecture, during a press conference in Tokyo on Monday evening.

Kono said he had no assurances that spent rocket boosters from the system's interceptor missiles, without significant upgrades, would fall within those bases.

"I had explained to the local residents living near the Mutsumi training base in Yamaguchi prefecture that we would make sure to land the Aegis Ashore's booster within the base," he said.

Although Japan worked with the United States, improving the missile software alone would not solve the problem, Kono added.

"Considering the costs and time involved," he said, "I have decided to pause the Aegis Ashore deployment."

Kono predicted refinements could take over 10 years and cost upwards of \$1 billion. He said he had informed Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga on Friday and that Abe "understood the situation." Kono plans to discuss the decision with Japan's National Security Council.

In the meantime, Japan's seven Aegis-equipped warships will continue to provide missile defense, something that places considerable strain on the fleet, Kono said.

"It was getting to be too much for Aegis warships to rotate as



**Above:** Navy Cmdr. Mark Fegley, left, of Aegis Ashore Missile Defense System Romania gives members of the Japanese Diet Council for Comprehensive Security a tour of the combat information center in 2017. **Left:** A new Aegis Ashore site is seen at Naval Support Facility Redzikowo, Poland, in August. U.S. Navy photos



North Korea owns so many medium-range ballistic missiles and intercontinental ballistic missiles," he said. "We knew we could not rely on just Aegis war-

ships, and that has not changed. Aegis Ashore would relieve that burden."

Japanese media described the move to abandon Aegis Ashore as

"abrupt."

"It came out of the blue and I was surprised," Yamaguchi Gov. Tsumagasa Muraoka told reporters at the prefectural

government's office after the announcement, Kyodo News reported Monday. Muraoka said he would like to hear from the defense minister in person.

Akita Gov. Norihisa Satake said, in an email statement Tuesday to Stars and Stripes that the decision was "wise" considering the circumstances. He said it was important to keep people around the base safe.

Officials from U.S. Forces Japan did not respond to requests seeking comment Tuesday.

Hawaii is home to an Aegis Ashore test complex and Romania has an operational unit. Another system is being built in Poland. Its completion has been pushed to 2022 with an added cost of \$90 million.

Japan decided to procure two Aegis Ashore batteries in 2017. The land-based systems, expected to be ready around 2023, were meant to be part of a three-layer missile defense that included Aegis destroyers, which take aim at missiles during their initial phase of flight, and land-based Patriot missile batteries that target the weapons during re-entry.

Japan has already spent or allocated about \$1.9 billion on the system, Kyodo News said this week.

The plan was unpopular with residents concerned about the potential health effects from the system's radar, along with the possibility of being targeted during an armed conflict.

Japan chose Aegis Ashore over other land-based missile defenses, including the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, system that the U.S. has deployed to South Korea. THAAD's coverage area is smaller than Aegis Ashore, and would require more units to cover Japan.

burke.matt@stars.com  
Twitter: @MatthewMBurke1  
ichihashi.aya@stars.com  
Twitter: @AyaIchihashi

## Japan imposes harsh penalties for aggressive driving, cycling

BY JAMES BOLINGER  
AND HANA KUSUMOTO  
Stars and Stripes

American drivers and cyclists in Japan face stiffer penalties if cited under a new law passed because of an increase in cycling during the coronavirus pandemic and a recent surge in road-rage incidents.

The revised traffic law passed this month by the Japanese Diet, the country's bicameral legislature, takes effect June 30, according to the National Police Agency.

The amended law defines road rage as "obstructive driving." This includes aggressive tailgating, excessive honking and stopping a car in front of other vehicles for the purpose of hampering their movement, according to the National Police Agency. The law also adds "obstructive

driving" to 14 cycling offenses already in place.

Obstructive cycling involves aggressive behaviors similar to obstructive driving. Existing offenses include cycling while drunk and failure to stop at a red light or stop sign, according to a Mainichi newspaper report.

Cyclists 14 years and older who violate the law twice within three years must attend a traffic safety course, the newspaper reported. Those who fail to take the course will be fined up to 50,000 yen or around \$460.

In 2019, Japan reported 80,473 traffic accidents involving bicycles that left 433 people dead, the Mainichi reported.

"In response to the growing number of bicycle accidents in Japan, I would recommend cyclists to place blinking lights on the front and back of their bi-

cycles," said Navy Lt. j.g. Matt Brewer, the facilities support construction manager at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, in a statement emailed to Stars and Stripes last week. "This is something that I don't see on many bikes out there."

Brewer, an avid cyclist, said that ringing a bike's bell generally prevents accidents.

"I see using it as a courtesy to alert someone that I am overtaking them and using it is a way to prevent collisions," he said. "I can see how persistently ringing it, though, may be distracting to drivers and other bicyclists."

The national police promised "strict investigations" into incidents of "obstructive and dangerous driving," especially those involving injury or death, according to its website.

Drivers found guilty of obstructive

driving could face up to three years in prison or a fine of up to 500,000 yen, or about \$460.

A driver committing road rage and causing grave danger by stopping other cars faces up to five years in prison or a fine of 1 million yen, or about \$920. Guilty drivers also accumulate 25 points on their driving records, which

means immediate license revocation for two years.

Americans affiliated with the U.S. military found guilty of a driving offense may lose their SOFA licenses.

bolinger.james@stars.com  
Twitter: @BolingerJ200  
kusumoto.hana@stars.com  
Twitter: @HanaKusumoto

**INJURED?**  
**CIVILIAN WORKERS**  
(INCLUDING NON-US CITIZENS)  
**KNOW AND PROTECT YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS**  
**D.B.A./N.A.F. ATTORNEYS**  
**www.injuredoverseas.com**  
**Phone: 954.920.7400 US Toll Free: 888.732.7425**  
**LAW OFFICES OF BARNETT & LERNER, P.A.**  
**FREE CONSULTATION**

## MILITARY

# Germany: NATO chief says our presence is good for Europe, US interests

## FROM FRONT PAGE

Trump has characterized Germany as a security free rider being protected by American forces.

But the NATO chief said he tried to convey to Trump that the U.S. presence in Europe wasn't only about protecting Germany, but "about projecting U.S. power beyond Europe."

"My message was the U.S. presence in Europe was good for Europe, but also good for North America and the United States," Stoltenberg said.

The U.S. Air Force base in Ramstein, a large American military hospital in Landstuhl, and the headquarters of U.S. Africa and European commands in Stuttgart are just some of the sites that serve U.S. interests well beyond their locations in Germany.

Trump has repeatedly accused Germany of failing to meet its obligations to the alliance. On Monday, he said Germany was "delinquent on their payments to NATO. They owe NATO billions and they know it ... Why should we be doing what they're doing if they don't pay?"

Past U.S. presidents also have

**‘My message to (President Donald Trump) has been NATO allies are actually delivering.’**

**Jens Stoltenberg**  
NATO chief

complained about insufficient defense spending by many allies in Europe, but Trump has made the issue his focal point in dealing with NATO.

Although Berlin has long fallen short of an alliance benchmark that calls for allies to spend 2% of gross domestic product on their own militaries, Germany is not delinquent and owes no money to NATO.

Alliance members, including Germany, have turned a corner and invested more in their militaries in recent years, Stoltenberg said.

"My message to him (Trump) has been NATO allies are actually delivering," Stoltenberg said.

vandiver.john@stripes.com

## Guard kills trespassing suspect at Alaska base

**By MARK THIESSEN**  
Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — A 30-year-old civilian was shot and killed after brandishing a knife at a duty officer after attempting to enter a building on an Alaska military base used by Navy SEALs for cold weather training, officials said Monday.

Jayson Vinberg of Kodiak died in the shooting late Saturday at the Naval Special Warfare Detachment Kodiak on Kodiak Island, Naval Criminal Investigative Services spokesman Jeff Houston said.

Vinberg entered the compound and attempted to get inside a building, Houston said.

"A Naval Special Warfare service member confronted the intruder, and events led to the service member using deadly force," Houston said.

Alaska State Troopers said a guard saw a man trespassing at the installation and tapping on the windows of a watch building with a knife.

The guard told the man to leave.

The guard then left his secure building to make sure the man left, troopers said.

It was then that troopers said the man walked toward the guard

with the knife and failed to obey the guard's repeated commands to stop. The duty officer shot the man, who was declared dead by responding medics, troopers said.

Houston and Lt. Matthew Stroup, a Naval Special Warfare Command spokesman, said the service member was in good condition and receiving support from his command leadership. Stroup declined to say whether the service member was injured or hospitalized.

"There is no known threat to the community at this time," Houston said, adding NCIS will not release additional information during the investigative process.

Attempts to reach Vinberg's family were not immediately successful.

Since the fatal shooting occurred on a Navy base, NCIS is leading the investigation, working with Alaska State Troopers and the Coast Guard Investigative Service, he said.

Troopers said the duty officer's name won't be released until after the investigation is complete and after consultation with the U.S. Attorney's Office in Anchorage.



YONHAP/AP

Smoke in the North Korean border town of Kaesong is seen Tuesday from Paju, South Korea. North Korea blew up an inter-Korean liaison office building just inside its border, in an act that sharply raises tensions on the Korean Peninsula amid deadlocked nuclear diplomacy with the United States.

## Tensions: South Korea convenes security council meeting after building's destruction

## FROM FRONT PAGE

### Symbolic but dangerous

No South Koreans were in the facility, which closed in late January due to coronavirus concerns, according to the Unification Ministry in Seoul.

The government convened a national security council meeting and warned it will "strongly respond if North Korea takes any action that worsens the situation."

"The destruction of the joint liaison office is a betrayal of everybody who hoped for the development of inter-Korean relations and the establishment of peace on the Korean Peninsula," the NSC's deputy director, Kim You-geun, told reporters.

Established in Kaesong after a series of inter-Korean summits in 2018, the liaison office was a centerpiece of South Korean President Moon Jae-in's efforts to improve relations with the North.

The two sides agreed to send senior officials to the facility for weekly meetings, but the North stopped participating last year as relations chilled. Still, they maintained regular contacts until the office was closed because of the pandemic.

"This is a highly symbolic and threatening message to South Korea designed to undermine Seoul and coerce the Moon administration into defending North Korean interests," Jean Lee, a Korea expert at the Washington, D.C.-based Wilson Center said. "Pyongyang is always seeking to drive a wedge between South Korea and the United States, particularly on international sanctions, which are taking a toll on the North Korean economy," she added.

### Kim's sister makes her move

On Saturday, Kim Yo Jong, the powerful sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, warned that the South would soon witness a "tragic scene of the useless North-South joint liaison office completely collapsed."

The Korea Central News Agency reported that the office had been "tragically ruined" on Tuesday, days after the North had severed communication lines with the South.

It said the move was "corresponding to the mindset of the enraged people to surely force human scum and those, who have sheltered the scum, to pay dearly for their crimes." The North Koreans frequently use the term "human scum" for defectors who fled to the South and often participate in operations to send messages and food across the border.

North Korea already has suspended most cooperation with Seoul amid frustration over the lack of

progress in bilateral economic projects and other issues linked to disarmament talks with the United States. But the dispatch of propaganda leaflets by a group of activists earlier this month proved a tipping point for Pyongyang.

South Korea's government promised to prevent further leafleting, but the North accused it of conspiring with the activists and violating agreements.

### More threats

Earlier Tuesday, the North Korean army said it was "keeping a close watch on the current situation in which the north-south relations are turning worse and worse" and "will rapidly and thoroughly implement any decisions and orders" of the ruling Workers' Party and government.

The army's general staff was "studying an action plan" to reoccupy areas that had been demilitarized under past deals, and "turn the front line into a fortress and further heighten the military vigilance against the south," KCNA reported.

The two Koreas also vacated several guard posts in the Demilitarized Zone that divides the peninsula as part of a military agreement reached in 2018 during a bout of diplomatic efforts to improve relations that have since fizzled.

North Korea also has conducted several short-range missile and artillery tests in recent months after a more than yearlong hiatus.

But Pyongyang has largely focused its ire on South Korea and stopped short of test-firing an intercontinental ballistic missile or another action that could provoke President Donald Trump.

The North is likely using a favored tactic of creating a crisis to project strength on the domestic front and pressure the South to take its side on sanctions and other issues, experts said.

Speaking about Kim Yo Jong's threat on Monday, a former senior South Korean negotiator said the destruction of the liaison office was mainly symbolic.

"Blowing up the liaison office is just killing what is dead already," Chun Yung-woo said in an online forum about past efforts to persuade the North to abandon its nuclear weapons. "I think the North Koreans are trying to change [South Korea's] policy toward North Korea through intimidation."

gamel.kim@stripes.com  
Twitter: @kimgamel  
chang-kyong@stripes.com



MILITARY

# US: Company put sailors at risk with subpar steel

By GENE JOHNSON  
Associated Press

SEATTLE — For decades, the Navy's leading supplier of high-strength steel for submarines provided subpar metal because one of the company's longtime employees falsified lab results — putting sailors at greater risk in the event of collisions or other impacts, federal prosecutors said in court filings Monday.

The supplier, Kansas City-based Bradken Inc., paid \$10.9 million as part of a deferred prosecution agreement, the Justice Department said. The company provides steel castings that Navy contractors Electric Boat and Newport News Shipbuilding use to make submarine hulls.

Bradken in 2008 acquired a foundry in Tacoma, Wash., that produced steel castings for the Navy. According to federal prosecutors, Bradken learned in 2017

that the foundry's director of metallurgy had been falsifying the results of strength tests, indicating that the steel was strong enough to meet the Navy's requirements when in fact it was not.

Prosecutors say the company initially disclosed its findings to the Navy but then wrongfully suggested that the discrepancies were not the result of fraud. That hindered the Navy's investigation into the scope of the problem as well as its efforts to remediate the risks to its sailors, prosecutors said.

"Bradken placed the Navy's sailors and its operations at risk," Seattle U.S. Attorney Brian Moran said in a news release. "Government contractors must not tolerate fraud within their organizations, and they must be fully forthcoming with the government when they discover it."

There is no allegation in the court documents that any submarine parts failed, but Moran said



SEAN D. ELLIOT, THE (NEW LONDON, CONN.) DAY/AP

The Navy's nuclear-powered attack submarine USS Vermont is christened in October 2018 in Groton, Conn. For decades, the Navy's leading supplier of high-strength steel for submarines provided subpar metal.

the Navy had incurred increased costs and maintenance to ensure the subs remain seaworthy. The government did not disclose which subs were affected.

The foundry's director of metallurgy, Elaine Thomas, 66, of Auburn, Wash., was charged criminally with one count of major fraud against the United States. Thomas, who worked in various capacities at the lab for 40 years, was due to make an initial appearance in federal court June 30. Her attorney, John Carpenter, declined to comment.

The criminal complaint said investigators were able to compare

internal company records with test results that Thomas certified. The analysis showed that she fabricated the results of 240 productions of steel, representing nearly half of the high-yield steel Bradken produced for Navy submarines — often toughness tests conducted at negative-100 degrees Fahrenheit, the complaint said.

When a special agent with the Department of Defense's Criminal Investigative Service confronted her with falsified results dating back to 1990, she eventually conceded that the results were altered — "Yeah, that looks bad," the complaint quoted her as say-

ing. She said she may have done it because she believed it was "a stupid requirement" that the test be conducted at such a cold temperature, the complaint said.

Investigators said the fraud came to light when a metallurgist being groomed to replace Thomas upon her planned 2017 retirement noticed some suspicious results. The company said it immediately fired Thomas.

If Bradken complies with the requirements outlined in the deferred prosecution agreement, the government will dismiss the criminal fraud charge against it after three years.

## SUMMER DIGITAL SALE

BUY 6 MONTHS,  
GET 6 MONTHS  
FREE FOR

\$19.99

Whether you are...

home

traveling

or PC'ing.



USE CODE 6FREE AT [STRIPE.COM/SUBSCRIBE](https://STRIPE.COM/SUBSCRIBE)

STARS AND STRIPES.

## MILITARY



U.S. Army

Baran "Rainman," a former Iraqi linguist, and the man who sponsored him for a Special Immigrant Visa — then 1st Lt. David Henderson, a psychological operations officer attached to the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division — hold an expended artillery round that landed near their base during a 2009 deployment to Forward Operating Base Marez in Mosul, Iraq.

## Court approves plan to fix visa delays for war zone interpreters

By J.P. LAWRENCE  
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — A federal judge in Washington has approved a plan to speed up visa applications for more than 9,000 interpreters who assisted U.S. troops in Afghanistan and Iraq.

The government plan, which resulted from a class-action lawsuit, aims to fix delays — some lasting years — in the Special Immigrant Visa program that allows interpreters from those two nations to resettle in the United States.

U.S. District Judge Tanya S. Chutkan approved the plan in a court order filed Sunday.

The State Department agreed to clear its backlog of applications under a series of deadlines as part of the plan.

Most interpreters in the visa backlog have been delayed while

waiting for verification that they were employed in support of U.S. missions. The government must now grant or deny those approvals within 120 days, according to the plan.

The government will also report to the court on its progress in clearing out backlogged applications every 90 days, and can be brought back to court if they don't meet their commitments.

In 2018, the International Refugee Assistance Project filed the lawsuit on behalf of five anonymous applicants from Iraq and Afghanistan.

The refugee advocacy group argued that almost no applicants under the SIV program get their results within the congressionally mandated nine-month response time. A court decision last fall determined that the delays were unlawful.

The plan approved Sunday is

the government's second proposal after a version in March was rejected by the court as inadequate.

One of the five interpreters involved in the 2018 lawsuit said earlier this year that she hoped it would help others who remain in danger after having worked for America.

The interpreter, known as Jane Doe Bravo due to concerns for the safety of family members still in Afghanistan, said she received death threats as she waited for her SIV application.

After joining the lawsuit, Jane Doe Bravo's application was approved and she now lives in America.

"I'm hoping this lawsuit, the same way it's opened the door for me, will help others who are suffering," she said.

lawrence.jp@stripes.com  
Twitter: @jplawrence3

## Soldier accused of biting police officer's leg

By IMMANUEL JOHNSON  
AND MARCUS KLOECKNER  
Stars and Stripes

GRAFENWOEHR, Germany — It took six German police officers to haul off a cowboy boot-wearing American soldier who called them Nazis, kicked them and later bit one of them in the leg, police said.

Customers at a Nuremberg train station fast food restaurant called police Saturday and said a drunken 22-year-old was acting aggressively toward staff, German authorities said in a statement.

After being handcuffed, he loudly hurled epithets and kicked the officers with his Western boots, the police said.

"Due to the [intoxication] and the aggressive behavior, the identity of the man could not be determined on the scene," police said.

He was later identified as a soldier with the Vilseck-based 2nd Cavalry Regiment. The regiment "is aware of an incident involving a Soldier" and the German police, Maj. John Ambelang, a spokesman for the unit said in a statement.

Due to his violent resistance, police had to tie up the soldier's

legs and a half-dozen officers were needed to carry him away to the police station. While being searched there, the soldier bit one of the officers in the leg, causing him to bleed. The officer was taken to the local hospital and "is currently not able to work," the German statement said.

The soldier was later turned over to military police, German authorities said. He could face assault charges under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, Ambelang said.

johnson.immanuel@stripes.com  
Twitter: Manny\_Stripes  
kloeckner.marcus@stripes.com

# Friends and family remember pilot killed in F-15 crash

By CHAD GARLAND  
AND BRIAN FERGUSON  
Stars and Stripes

The Air Force pilot killed in an F-15C fighter jet crash in the North Sea off the coast of England this week was a man of strong faith who showed love and respect for others, even in the face of danger, friends and family recalled.

First Lt. Kenneth Allen, a 27-year-old pilot with the RAF Lakenheath-based 48th Fighter Wing, was identified Tuesday, hours after his body was recovered and next of kin had been contacted.

"He is gone. I'm shaking," said his wife of several months, Hannah Allen, in a Facebook post late Monday, after the Air Force had confirmed that her husband had died when his F-15C Eagle crashed into the North Sea that morning.

"Kage was perfect, never been treated with more love and respect in my life. He was my absolute best friend," she said, using the name many called him by.

Before the crash, which occurred during a routine training flight, emergency communications were heard on a "frequency used throughout NATO." The Aviationist website reported.

Kage Allen was likely dead, his wife acknowledged in a Facebook post Monday as British coast guard helicopters, lifeboats and military planes joined the American military in the search for him.

"Life doesn't feel real," Hannah Allen wrote. "Right now Kage has presumably passed. Right now we need time to process this shock... He is the love of my life. I don't know what I did to deserve him or be [part of] his family."

Allen's body was found Monday evening, several hours after the British coast guard located the wreckage of the plane off the English coast.

A 2017 graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, Allen did a yearlong missionary trip to Chile with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, widely known as the Mormon church, before

attending the military school, a friend and fellow missionary said on Facebook.

He was assigned to the most difficult area "in a section of the very worst part of Santiago," David Cook recalled in the post.

The area of the Chilean capital was "a place where the Carabineros (police) did not go," Cook said. "Not once did he complain."

The mission's motto was "Hacia las Alturas," or "to the heights" in Spanish, Cook said.

"What a fitting motto for Kage and his dream to be a fighter pilot."

After pilot training at Vance Air Force Base, Okla., and King's Field Air National Guard Base, Ore., Kage Allen arrived at Lakenheath in February. He and his wife had married in a civil ceremony before he reported, in order to get ahead on military paperwork to bring her overseas, Hannah Allen said in a Facebook post in April.

Their plans for a church wedding were delayed by the coronavirus outbreak, she said.

"We are looking forward to celebrating with you all in the future! (It's going to be a party!)" For now, we are grateful to have each other, even if half a world apart," she wrote.

Allen was the assistant chief of weapons and tactics for the 493rd Fighter Squadron, the wing said in a statement.

On Tuesday, Hannah Allen posted a video of the last song her husband played for her on his guitar, just days before he died. In it, he sings the lyrics of Jim Croce's "Time in a Bottle," lamenting the fleeting passage of time and the singer's desire to spend eternity with his love.

"Christ needs [to] hurry up and come back so I can be with Kage again," she wrote in an earlier post, referring to the second coming of Jesus Christ that their faith promises. "I feel beyond blessed to have loved him in this life and can't wait to love him for eternity."

ferguson.brian@stripes.com  
Twitter: @BrianFerg57  
garland.chad@stripes.com  
Twitter: @chadgarland



JESSI MONTU/US Air Force

An F-15C Eagle assigned to the 493rd Fighter Squadron flies over RAF Lakenheath, England, on June 2.



## VIRUS OUTBREAK

# Military gyms in Germany reopen by appointment

By JENNIFER H. SVAN  
Stars and Stripes

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — Hundreds of service members worked out by appointment as the largest gym at Ramstein reopened its doors for the first time since closing in March due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The open doors at one of the military's largest overseas bases come as gyms throughout Europe slowly reopen with strict safety and hygiene rules, coinciding with falling numbers of coronavirus cases on most of the Continent.

Airman Jared Chapa, 20, said his upper-body muscles were noticeably weaker after three months away, while he lifted 20-pound dumbbells on the incline bench press Monday at the Southside Fitness Center.

"I'm trying to get them back to what they were before," he said. "It just feels good to be back in the gym, even though it's very limited."

For now, Ramstein's southside gym is only available to active-duty service members. Patron numbers at the southside gym are capped at 60 per hour for six hourly sessions daily, Monday to Friday.

Each room has a capacity limit and equipment is spaced nearly 10 feet apart; customers are asked to keep about 5 feet apart.

Weight machines and some cardio equipment are spread across the basketball court, which isn't being used for basketball due to

host-nation restrictions on group activities.

Locker rooms, showers and water fountains are closed.

Masks are mandatory except when actively working out, said Master Sgt. Daniel Whiteman, who is in charge of the Southside Fitness Center.

Frequent disinfecting is emphasized, he said. Patrons are asked to sanitize equipment before and after use, and the fitness center closes for an hour between each workout session so staff can wipe down the weights and cardio machines.

Two nebulizers are used at the end of the day for a deep cleaning that takes about an hour, Whiteman said.

"We spray the equipment with a sanitizing solution that ... can kill viruses and bacteria within five minutes," he said.

An online appointment system keeps customer data for contact tracing in the event a patron is diagnosed with the virus. Customers go through screening at check in.

The timeline for opening the other Air Force gyms in the Kaiserslautern area and expanding access depends on host nation guidance, Whiteman said.

Patrons at the southside gym Monday said they welcomed the chance to work out in a gym again, after months of pushups and situps at home, mixed with running or cycling outdoors.

"I've really been waiting for this for a long time," said Air Force Tech. Sgt. Nikita Sutton, 28. "It's kind of weird how it's



PHOTOS BY JENNIFER H. SVAN/Stars and Stripes

**Army Staff Sgt. Kenric Duncan, 31, uses a machine Monday at the Southside Fitness Center on Ramstein Air Base, Germany.**

up, but at least we can use some of the equipment finally."

Most said they weren't nervous about working out indoors with others during a pandemic.

"Everyone is keeping a pretty good distance and everyone is minding the rules well," said Petty Officer 1st Class Charles Husak, 31.

The first Army gym in Germany opened June 8 — the Wiesbaden Fitness Center and the Patch, Panzer, Robinson Barracks and Kelley gyms at U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart, officials said. Wiesbaden is by appointment only through unit representatives; the gyms at Stuttgart are open on some days to community members.

Spangdahlem Air Base's fitness center also opened Monday but with similar rules as at Ramstein. Time slots of 1.5 hours must be reserved in advance, and customers go through screening and have their temperatures taken at the door.

svan.jennifer@stripes.com  
Twitter: @stripesktown



**Above: Airman Jared Chapa lifts dumbbells on the incline bench press. Left: Air Force Tech. Sgt. Nikita Sutton lifts a 20-pound dumbbell behind her back while wearing a mask at the Southside Fitness Center.**



## US military gives more off-base freedom to Okinawa troops

By MATTHEW M. BURKE  
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — Life is returning to something closer to pre-pandemic days with the loosening of some coronavirus restrictions on military families in Okinawa.

Starting noon Wednesday, dining at off-base restaurants, attending off-base religious services, working out at local gyms, patronizing off-base beauty, tattoo and massage parlors and barbers, hair and nail salons will all be permitted again, according to statements Monday from Marine Forces Japan and the 18th Wing at Kadena Air Base. They'll also be free to check in at local hotels and resorts and schedule elective medical procedures.

Service members, Defense Department civilians, contractors and their families may also take part in recreational activities with no limit on group size, such as visiting museums and the Churaumi Aquarium. They may also use public transportation — like taxis — but no off-base buses or monorail.

There are catches: Everyone must maintain social distancing, wear masks where appropriate and continue good hygiene and safety practices, the statements said.

"Events and activities where social distancing is not possible or practiced will remain prohibited both on-base and off-base," the 18th Wing said in their statement on Facebook. The same holds true for Marines, their families and ci-

vilian employees on the island.

An overall public health emergency declared by U.S. Forces Japan on April 15 remains in effect until July 14. That means masks and other measures are still required of anyone at Kadena and the Marine installations, according to the coordinated statements.

Anyone who enters Kadena and "who refuses to obey these directives may face administrative action," according to the wing statement.

The success of preventive measures and the drop in the number of new coronavirus cases on Okinawa permit both commands to lower the health protection condition from Charlie to Bravo, according to a Charlie statement on Facebook.

Health Protection Condition-Charlie, in effect since March 25, indicated a "substantial" risk to public health; Bravo indicates a "moderate" risk. USFJ lowered the overall health protection condition to Bravo on Friday, which permits individual commands to follow suit.

"The relaxed restrictions were "synchronized across the U.S. military services on Okinawa."

At Kadena, non-mission-essential workers may again access the base, according to the wing. Non-mission-essential visitors may also enter the base with a valid visitor's pass, unless they have traveled internationally in the past 14 days and have not yet completed the mandatory quarantine period.

All personnel are still required

to maintain an up-to-date contact tracing log, according to the wing.

Many places are still off-limits for all Marines, airmen and civilians: bars, night clubs, karaoke boxes, pachinko parlors and any establishments that allow adults only, the statements said. Wrestling, boxing, jiu-jitsu and other close-contact sports are also unauthorized, as are events with high-density crowds like flea markets, concerts and festivals.

"This is an important time to remain vigilant and take precautions to keep our community and our Okinawan neighbors safe," the Marine Forces Japan statement said.

burke.matt@stripes.com  
Twitter: @MatthewMBurke1

## VIRUS OUTBREAK

# Poll: Americans unhappy they've been in 50 years

By TAMARA LUSH  
Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Spoiler alert: 2020 has been rough on the American psyche. Folks in the U.S. are more unhappy today than they've been in nearly 50 years.

This hold — yet unsurprising — conclusion comes from the COVID Response Tracking Study, conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago. It finds that just 14% of American adults say they're very happy, down from 31% who said the same in 2018. That year, 23% said they'd often or sometimes felt isolated in recent weeks. Now, 50% say that.

The survey, conducted in late May, draws on nearly a half-century of research from the General Social Survey, which has collected data on American attitudes and behaviors at least every other year since 1972. No less than 29% of Americans have ever called themselves very happy in that survey.

Most of the new survey's interviews were completed before the death of George Floyd touched off nationwide protests and a global conversation about race and police brutality, adding to the feelings of stress and loneliness Americans were already facing from the coronavirus outbreak — especially for black Americans.

Lexi Walker, a 47-year-old pro-

fessional fiduciary who lives near Greenville, S.C., has felt anxious and depressed for long stretches of this year. She moved back to South Carolina late in 2019, then her cat died. Her father passed away in February. Just when she thought she'd get out and socialize, the pandemic hit.

"It's been one thing after another," Walker said. "This is very hard. The worst thing about this for me, after so much, I don't know what's going to happen."

Among other findings from the new poll about life in the pandemic:

■ The public is less optimistic today about the standard of living improving for the next generation than it has been in the past 25 years. Only 42% of Americans believe that when their children reach their age, their standard of living will be better. A solid 57% said that in 2018. Since the question was asked in 1994, the previous low was 45% in 1994.

■ Compared with surveys conducted after President John F. Kennedy's assassination in 1963 and after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, Americans are less likely to report some types of emotional and psychological stress reactions following the COVID-19 outbreak. Fewer report smoking more than usual, crying or feeling dazed now than after those two previous tragedies, though more report having



JOHN MINICILLO/AP

**Medical personnel work in the emergency department at NYC Health + Hospitals Metropolitan on May 27 in New York. Hospitals around the country are dealing with the psychological toll of the virus fight as a study reveals that Americans are more unhappy today than they've been in nearly 50 years.**

lost their temper or wanting to get drunk.

■ About twice as many Americans report being lonely today as in 2018, and not surprisingly given the lockdowns that tried to contain the spread of the coronavirus, there's also been a drop in satisfaction with social activities and relationships. Compared with 2018, Americans also are about twice as likely to say they sometimes or often have felt a lack of companionship (45% vs. 27%) and felt left out (37% vs. 18%) in the past four weeks.

What is surprising, said Louise Hawley, a senior research scientist with NORC at the University of Chicago, was that loneliness was not even more prevalent.

"It isn't as high as it could be," she said. "People have figured out a way to connect with others. It's

not satisfactory, but people are managing to some extent."

Reimagining happiness is almost hard-wired into Americans' DNA, said Sonja Lyubomirsky, a psychology professor at the University of California, Riverside.

"Human beings are remarkably resilient. There's lots and lots of evidence that we adapt to everything. We move forward," she said, adding that she's done happiness studies since the pandemic started and found that some people are slightly happier than last year.

Melinda Hartline, of Tampa, who was laid off from her job in public relations in March, said she was in a depressed daze those first few weeks of unemployment. Then she started to bike and play tennis and enrolled in a college course on post-crisis leadership.

Today, she's worried about the

state of the world and the economy, and she wonders when she can see her kids and grandkids who live on the West Coast — but she also realizes that things could be a lot worse.

"Anything can happen. And you have to be prepared," she said. "Whether it's your health, your finances, whether it's the world. You have to be prepared. And always maintain that positive mental attitude. It's going to get you through it."

The survey of 2,279 adults was conducted May 21-29 with funding from the National Science Foundation. It uses a sample drawn from NORC's probability-based AmeriSpeak Panel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. population. The margin of sampling error for all respondents is plus or minus 2.9 percentage points.

## A drug offers hope even as cases rise in Africa and Asia

Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG — Researchers on Tuesday announced the first drug shown to reduce deaths among severely ill coronavirus patients, offering hope even as infection rates rose in Africa and Asia, and there were worrisome upticks of contagion in countries that had largely contained the virus.

The cheap, widely available steroid, called dexamethasone, reduced deaths by 35% in patients who needed treatment with breathing machines and by 20% in those only needing supplemental oxygen, the researchers said in England. It did not appear to help less ill patients.

"This is an extremely welcome result," one study leader, Peter Horby of the University of Oxford, said in a statement. "The survival benefit is clear and large in those patients who are sick enough to require oxygen treatment, so dexamethasone should now become standard of care in these patients. Dexamethasone is



NO HAN GUAN/AP

**Residents line up to be tested for the coronavirus in Beijing on Tuesday. China increased lockdown measures in parts of the capital to control what appeared to be a new outbreak.**

inexpensive, on the shelf, and can be used immediately to save lives worldwide."

The study is a large, strict test that randomly assigned 2,104 patients to get the drug and compared them with 4,321 patients getting only usual care. The researchers said they would publish

the results soon.

New, record-high infections were registered in South Africa over the weekend. The country now has more than a quarter of the cases on the 54-nation African continent with more than 73,000.

Daily coronavirus deaths con-

tinued to rise in Egypt, with the health ministry reporting 97 deaths Monday, the country's highest for a single day. Egypt has over 46,000 COVID-19 infections and 1,672 deaths, but the government has resisted a full lockdown to try to keep the economy functioning. Authorities have shortened the nightly curfew and plan to reopen airports next month.

Israel's steady rise in infections since restrictions were eased last month has increased fears of what a top Health Ministry official said looked like the "beginning of a wave."

The country is reporting 200 new cases daily, a tenfold increase from a few weeks ago, and Israeli leaders warned of possibly reinstating strict lockdown measures if people don't heed calls to wear masks, maintain social distancing and wash their hands.

Pakistan's steady rise in coronavirus cases have put the country in the top 15 nations globally for infections, with over 48,000. Several hospitals have begun refusing patients because they no

longer had available beds.

Chinese authorities locked down a third neighborhood in Beijing to contain a new coronavirus outbreak that has infected more than 100 people after the country appeared to have largely contained the virus since it first appeared there late last year.

Most of the cases have been linked to Beijing's Xinfadi wholesale food market, and people lined up for massive testing of anyone who had visited the market in the past two weeks or come in contact with them. About 9,000 workers at the market were tested already.

South Korea reported 34 new cases Tuesday. Half were in densely populated Seoul, where officials are scrambling to stem transmissions linked to leisure and religious activities and low-income workers who can't afford to stay home.

The Seoul government has so far resisted calls to reimpose stronger social distancing guidelines, fearing further economic damage.

## NATION

# High court rules gay, trans workers protected

By MARK SHERMAN

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court ruled Monday that a landmark civil rights law protects gay, lesbian and transgender people from discrimination in employment, a resounding victory for LGBT rights from a conservative court.

The court decided by a 6-3 vote that a key provision of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 known as Title VII that bars job discrimination because of sex, among other reasons, encompasses bias against people because of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

"An employer who fires an individual for being homosexual or transgender fires that person for traits or actions it would not have questioned in members of a different sex," Justice Neil Gorsuch wrote for the court. "Sex plays a necessary and undisguisable role in the decision, exactly what Title VII forbids."

The decision was a defeat not just for the employers, but also the Trump administration, which argued that the law's plain wording compelled a ruling for the employers. Gorsuch, a conservative appointee of President Donald Trump, concluded the opposite, and Trump said Monday he accepted the court's "very powerful decision."

Gorsuch was joined in the majority by Chief Justice John Roberts and the court's four liberal members. Justice Brett Kavanaugh, Trump's other Supreme Court pick, dissented, along with Justices Samuel Alito and Clarence Thomas.

"The Court tries to convince readers that it is merely enforcing the terms of the statute, but that is preposterous," Alito wrote in the dissent. "Even as understood today, the concept of discrimination because of 'sex' is different from discrimination because of 'sexual orientation' or 'gender identity.'"

Kavanaugh wrote in a separate dissent that the court was rewriting the law to include gender identity and sexual orientation, a job that belongs to Congress. Still, Kavanaugh said the decision represents an "important victory achieved today by gay and lesbian Americans."

Trump had a restrained reaction, telling reporters that he'd read the decision and that "some people were surprised."

He added: "But they've ruled and we live with their decision. That's what it's all about. We live with the decision of the Supreme Court. Very powerful. A very powerful decision actually. But they have so ruled."

The outcome is expected to have a big impact for the estimated 8.1 million LGBT workers across the country because most states don't protect them from workplace discrimination. An estimated 11.3 million LGBT people live in the U.S., according to the Williams Institute at the UCLA law school.



MANUEL BALCE CENTA/AP

Supporters of GLBTQ rights hold placards in front of the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington in October. The Supreme Court ruled that a landmark civil rights law protects gay, lesbian and transgender people from discrimination in employment.

## Court decision does not cover military

By CAITLIN M. KENNEY

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The landmark Supreme Court ruling Monday that a prohibition against sex discrimination also extends to gay and transgender people does not affect service members or a Pentagon policy banning transgender troops. However, lawyers and LGBTQ advocates believe the ruling could impact current lawsuits challenging the Pentagon policy by making its ban harder to defend.

In a 6-3 decision, the Supreme Court ruled that employers who fired a person for being gay or transgender violate Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Title VII protects an individual from being discriminated against by an employer based on their race, color, religion, sex or national origin. The court ruled that the mention of "sex" applies to individuals who are gay or transgender.

The Pentagon's 2019 transgender policy does not allow people who have been diagnosed with gender dysphoria to enlist in the military or continue to serve as their preferred gender without a medical certification or waiver. Gender dysphoria is the medical condition associated with individuals who do not identify with their birth sex.

In May, a transgender Navy officer was the first service member to receive a waiver to serve in their preferred gender since the policy was put in place.

The Defense Department referred questions about the Supreme Court decision and its transgender policy to the Justice Department. The DOJ "has no comment," a spokesman said in an email.

The Supreme Court ruling will also not directly apply to the four federal lawsuits challenging the transgender policy because they are based on the Constitution's equal protection clause and not the Civil Rights Act, according to Jennifer Levi, the

Transgender Rights Project director at GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders.

However, the Supreme Court ruling will still have an impact on the transgender policy, she said.

"It is absolutely going to be influential because that principle that's articulated in today's case — that discrimination against someone for being transgender is sex discrimination — will then apply to the court's analysis in the case under the constitutional equal protection challenge that's been brought in those cases," Levi said.

Because the court's ruling does not apply, it makes the military "an outlier amidst a national consensus that arbitrary discrimination is harmful and wrong," Aaron Belkin, the director of the Palm Center, said in a prepared statement Monday.

"With transgender workers protected by federal law in all other sectors, the military's transgender ban is now even harder to defend," he said. The Palm Center is a nonpartisan research institute analyzing military personnel policies, particularly regarding the LGBTQ community.

Peter Perkowski, the legal and policy director for Modern Military of America Association, said the court's decision gives the organization hope "that justice will prevail in our lawsuit challenging the transgender military ban."

The association is a LGBTQ nonprofit that currently represents six service members in a lawsuit challenging whether the ban is constitutional.

"Make no mistake: The Supreme Court has ruled that discrimination against LGBTQ people is discrimination based on sex. That truth applies regardless of context. At the end of the day, what matters for military service is whether or not you are capable and qualified, not your gender identity," Perkowski said in a prepared statement.

kenney.caitlin@stripes.com  
Twitter: @caitlinmkenney

will create chaos and enormous unfairness for women and girls in athletics, women's shelters, and many other contexts."

But Monday's decision is not likely to be the court's last word on a host of issues revolving around LGBT rights, Gorsuch noted.

Rights groups have said they will challenge the administration's effort to roll back anti-discrimination protections for transgender people in health care. Lawsuits are pending over transgender athletes' participation in school sporting events, and courts also are dealing with cases about sex-segregated bathrooms and locker rooms, a subject that the justices seemed concerned about during arguments in October. Employers who have religious objections to employing LGBT people also might be able to raise those claims in a different case, Gorsuch said.

"But none of these other laws are before us; we have not had the benefit of adversarial testing about the meaning of their terms, and we do not prejudice any such question today," he wrote.

The cases were the court's first on LGBT rights since Justice Anthony Kennedy's retirement and replacement by Kavanaugh. Kennedy was a voice for gay rights and the author of the landmark ruling in 2015 that made same-sex marriage legal throughout the United States. Kavanaugh generally is regarded as more conservative.

The Trump administration had changed course from the Obama administration, which supported LGBT workers in their discrimination claims under Title VII.

During the Obama years, the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission had changed its long-standing interpretation of civil rights law to include discrimination against LGBT people. The law prohibits discrimination because of sex, but has no specific protection for sexual orientation or gender identity.

Democratic presidential contender Joe Biden, Obama's vice president, praised the decision on Twitter as "another step in our march toward equality for all. The Supreme Court has confirmed the simple but profoundly American idea that every human being should be treated with respect."

In recent years, some lower courts have held that discrimination against LGBT people is a subset of sex discrimination, and thus prohibited by the federal law.

Efforts by Congress to change the law to explicitly bar job discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity have so far failed.

they love or how they identify. And the justices have now made sure that we won't have to worry about that."

John Bursch, who argued the appeal from a Michigan funeral home owner against a fired trans-

gender employee, said, "Americans must be able to rely on what the law says, and it is disappointing that a majority of the justices were unwilling to affirm that commonsense principle. Redefining 'sex' to mean 'gender identity'



## NATION

# Trump signs order to revamp policing

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Following weeks of national protests since the death of George Floyd, President Donald Trump signed an executive order on policing Tuesday that would encourage better police practices and establish a database to keep track of officers with a history of excessive use-of-force complaints.

In Rose Garden remarks, Trump stressed the need for higher standards and commiserated with mourning families, even as he hailed the vast majority of officers as selfless public servants and held his law-and-order line, while criticizing Democrats.

"Reducing crime and raising standards are not opposite goals," he said before signing the order flanked by police.

Trump and the GOP have been rushing to respond to the mass demonstrations against police brutality and racial prejudice that have raged for weeks across the country in response to the deaths of Floyd and other black

Americans. It's a sudden shift for the Republican Party — and one Democrats are watching warily — that shows how quickly the protests have changed the political conversation and pressured Washington to act.

But Trump, throughout the crisis, has continued to emphasize his support for law enforcement and even on Tuesday railed against those who committed violence during the largely peaceful protests.

Trump's executive order would establish a database that tracks police officers with excessive use of force complaints in their records. And it would give police departments a financial incentive to adopt best practices and encourage co-responder programs, in which social workers join police when they respond to nonviolent calls involving mental health, addiction and homeless issues.

Trump said that, under a new credentialing process, chokeholds will be banned "except if an officer's life is at risk." Chokeholds

are already largely banned in police departments nationwide.

Trump framed his plan as an alternative to the "defund the police" movement that has emerged from the protests and which he slammed as "radical and dangerous."

"Americans know the truth: Without police there is chaos. Without law there is anarchy and without safety there is catastrophe," he said.

Trump's audience included police officials and members of Congress, and came after he met at the White House with the families of men and women who have been killed in interactions with police.

"To all of the hurting families, I want you to know that all Americans mourn by your side," Trump said. "Your loved ones will not have died in vain."

Yet Trump made no mention of systemic racism in his comments.

The Rose Garden announcement comes as Senate Repub-

licans are preparing their own package of policing changes. Sen. Tim Scott, of South Carolina, the sole African American Republican in the Senate, has been crafting the GOP legislative package, which will include new restrictions on police chokeholds and greater use of police body cameras, among other provisions.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., declared that Republicans are developing "a serious proposal to reform law enforcement."

The Senate Judiciary Committee was to conduct a hearing Tuesday afternoon on "Police Use of Force and Community Relations," drawing testimony from leading civil rights and law enforcement leaders.

"Now is the time to reimagine a more fair and just society in which all people are safe," Vanita Gupta, president and CEO of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, was to tell senators, according to advance testimony.

# Feds to review 2 hanging deaths

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Federal authorities will review local investigations into the hanging deaths of two black men in Southern California to determine whether federal law was violated, officials said Monday.

Local authorities have said there is no evidence of foul play in the deaths of Robert Fuller in Palmdale and Malcolm Harsch in Victorville and early indications point both to suicide, but sheriffs have pledged to continue to investigate the cases.

Monday's announcement follows weekend protests, which were prompted by the initial determination of suicide as the likely cause of death for Fuller.

People who participated in a town hall hosted by Los Angeles County Sheriff Alex Villanueva on Monday also voiced concerns that Fuller and Harsch may have been lynched.

The FBI, U.S. attorney's office in the Central District of California and the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division are monitoring the investigations of the Los Angeles County and San Bernardino County sheriffs, authorities said in a statement. The city of Palmdale issued a statement supporting an independent inquiry.

Fuller's body was discovered around 3:30 a.m. Wednesday in a park. An autopsy was conducted Friday and the Los Angeles County medical examiner-coroner's office said the 24-year-old man appeared to have died by suicide.

The finding prompted outcry by his family, who believed he wasn't suicidal, and community members who called for an independent probe and autopsy.

The state Senate began its session Monday with a moment of silence for Fuller and Harsch, a 38-year-old homeless man who was found hanging from a tree on May 31 in Victorville, about 45 miles east of Palmdale. The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department said foul play was not suspected in the death of Harsch, but his family said in a statement issued Saturday that they were concerned it will be ruled a suicide to avoid further attention.

# Man shot during protest in NM over conqueror's statue

Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — A man was shot Monday night as protesters in New Mexico's largest city tried to tear down a bronze statue of a Spanish conquistador outside the Albuquerque Museum, prompting the city to announce that the statue would be removed until officials determine the next steps.

The man was taken to a hospital and was listed in critical but stable condition late Monday, said Albuquerque police spokesman Gilbert Gallegos.

A confrontation erupted between protesters and a group of armed men who were trying to protect the statue of Juan de Onate before protesters wrapped a chain around it and began tugging on it while chanting: "Tear it down." One protester repeatedly swung a pickaxe at the base of the statue.

Moments later, a few gunshots

could be heard down the street and people started yelling that someone had been shot.

Gallegos said police used tear gas and flash bangs to protect the officers who intervened and detained those involved in the shooting. He said they were disarmed and taken into custody for questioning as police worked to secure the scene. He said detectives were investigating with the help of the FBI but he did not immediately release any other information.

"The shooting tonight was a tragic, outrageous and unacceptable act of violence and it has no place in our city," Mayor Tim Keller said in a statement Monday. "Our diverse community will not be deterred by acts meant to divide or silence us. Our hearts go out the victim, his family and witnesses whose lives were needlessly threatened tonight. This sculpture has now become an urgent matter of public safety."



ADOLPHE PIERRE-LOUIS, THE ALBUQUERQUE (N.M.) JOURNAL/AP

Albuquerque police detain members of the New Mexico Civil Guard, an armed civilian group, after the shooting of a man during a protest over a statue of Spanish conqueror Juan de Onate on Monday.

Democrat Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham issued a statement in which she took aim at the armed individuals, saying they were there to menace protesters. She said no matter who strikes first, there would be no room in New Mexico for any sort of escalation of what she called "reckless, violent rhetoric."

The violence came just hours

after activists in northern New Mexico celebrated the removal of another likeness of Onate that was on public display at a cultural center in the community of Alcalde. Rio Arriba County officials removed it to safeguard it from possible damage and to avoid civil unrest ahead of a scheduled protest.





**CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF SERVING  
US MILITARY IN THE PACIFIC • 1945-2020**



**75.stripes.com**

**STARS AND STRIPES**

# NATION

## City named for Confederate general mulls name change

By JAKE SHERIDAN  
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — The City Council of Fort Bragg, a small Northern California city named after Braxton Bragg, a Confederate Army general and slave owner, are pondering putting a town name change on the November ballot.

The move by the Mendocino County town of nearly 7,400 comes in response “to many requests (some local and many not) that the city of Fort Bragg, Calif., change its name to avoid any connotation associated with Confederate Army Gen. Braxton Bragg,” a post on the city’s Facebook page read. The discussion is set for Monday.

The post, which has received more than 900 contentious comments decrying and praising the call for conversation, comes amid a national reckoning with racism

following protests against police violence. Since George Floyd was killed by Minneapolis police, protesters and policymakers have torn down Confederate statues, and namesakes and icons associated with racism and white supremacy have faced intense scrutiny.

The town’s name has been challenged before. In 2015, the California Legislative Black Caucus sent a letter to then-Mayor Lindy Peters asking Fort Bragg to make a change. According to the letter, Bragg’s mother was jailed for killing a freed, formerly enslaved person, and the Confederate general enslaved 105 people at his Louisiana plantation before he “committed treason against our nation during the Civil War and fought to defend the defenseless cause of slavery.”

The request came in July 2015, a month after white supremacist Dylann Roof shot

and killed nine black worshippers at the Emanuel AME church in Charleston, S.C.

“While I completely agree with the effort to remove the Confederate flag from the South Carolina state Capitol, I would argue that asking us to change our name is taking things a bit too far,” Peters, who now serves as a City Council member, told the Los Angeles Times then. “You cannot change history ... We are a tight-knit community who do not favor changing our name, especially when pushed to do so by politicians who have never even visited our town and know nothing of our long and rich local history.”

The city — once just a military camp — was named for Bragg in 1857, before the Civil War, by founder Horatio C. Gibson, who served under Bragg in the Spanish American War, according to website MendocinoFun.

Other namesakes of Bragg are also being called into question.

Military leaders, including Defense Secretary Mark Esper and Army Secretary Ryan McCarthy, have signaled they are willing to consider renaming Army bases that honor Confederate officers, such as North Carolina’s Fort Bragg.

On June 10, President Donald Trump tweeted that his administration would not consider renaming the bases because they “have become part of a Great American heritage, a history of winning, victory and freedom.” That same day, the Senate’s Armed Services Committee voted to require the Pentagon to remove Confederate names, monuments and symbols from the military in the next three years.

Bragg led the Confederate Army of Tennessee.

## In a first, FDA approves video game for treating ADHD in children

Associated Press

BOSTON — The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has for the first time approved a video game for treating attention deficit hyperactivity disorder in children.

The FDA said Monday the

game built by Boston-based Akili Interactive Labs can improve attention function.

The game, called EndeavorRx, requires a prescription and is designed for children ages 8 to 12 with certain symptoms of ADHD.

It’s the first time the FDA has cleared a digital therapy for improving ADHD symptoms, and the first time the agency has ever authorized marketing of a game-based therapy for any condition.

The FDA says it looked at data from multiple studies in more

than 600 children. A video of the game shows a character traveling a racecourse-like path in a hover board.

Sensory and motor tasks are designed to help the player improve cognitive functioning.

“We’re proud to make history

today with FDA’s decision,” Akili CEO Eddie Martucci said in a statement. “We’re using technology to help treat a condition in an entirely new way as we directly target neurological function through medicine that feels like entertainment.”



# SERVICE DIRECTORY

The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market



Transportation

944

## VEHICLE SHIPPING SERVICES

- International Shipping
- Import & Export
- Inland trucking (U.S. & Europe)
- Door to door pick-up/delivery service
- Customs clearance
- All Risk Marine Insurance
- Auto Insurance (Germany only)

**For Further Information Please Contact**

<b>GERMANY</b> Phone: +49-(0)6134-2592730 Toll-free: 0800-CARSHIP (Germany only) E-Mail: info@transglobal-logistics.de WEB: www.transglobal-logistics.de	<b>UNITED KINGDOM</b> +44-(0)1638-515714 enquiries@carshipuk.co.uk www.carshipuk.co.uk	<b>U.S.A</b> +1-972-602-1670 Ext. 1701 +1-800-264-8167 (US only) info@tgal.us www.tgal.us
--	---	---

*For 2nd POV Shipments - Offices / Agencies near Military Installations*



LOGISTICS EUROPE GMBH



Transportation


944

Ship Cars and Containers to and from the USA



**OPENING HOURS:** 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon - Fri  
0800-522-6274 or 800-WSA-SHIP (972-7447)  
For a free rate enquiry, please email: info@worldwide-ship.de  
Visit our Website: www.worldwide-ship.de

Off Duty? Amuse Yourself!



Concert, events, TV, movies, music, video games, celebrity antics...

Get entertained with...

STARS AND STRIPES

Are you in the picture?



Reading Stars and Stripes gives you a better handle on issues that affect you most.

*No one covers the bases the way we do.*

STARS AND STRIPES

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Bomb squad destroys item cast over jail wall

**OH** CINCINNATI — The bomb squad early Monday safely detonated a suspicious package that was thrown at the Hamilton County Justice Complex, the sheriff's office said.

Officers evacuated the complex, which is the main county jail branch, and closed surrounding streets while the hazardous devices unit examined the package that was tossed over a concrete wall near an entrance.

The bomb squad X-rayed the package and detonated it as a precaution, the sheriff's office said.

No one was injured. The sheriff's office said that inmates and staff were not at risk.

## Cristobal's driftwood to get new aquarium home

**MS** GULFPORT — Tropical Storm Cristobal left a big mess on beaches along the Mississippi Gulf Coast, but that created an opportunity for the Mississippi Aquarium.

The Gulfport facility plans to recycle driftwood left by the recent storm, WLOX-TV reported.

With permission from Harrison County Sand Beach Authority, aquarium staffers have been gathering pieces that will become part of the habitats at the aquarium still under construction in Gulfport.

The aquarium was originally scheduled to open in April, but the coronavirus pandemic put an indefinite delay on those plans.

## Wildlife officials kill bear that entered home

**CO** COLORADO SPRINGS — Colorado Parks and Wildlife said a bear that had been previously relocated was killed after entering a home while the owner was inside.

Wildlife officers were called to a home in Colorado Springs around 10:30 a.m. Sunday and found a male bear inside the home on the resident's couch, KUSA-TV reports that.

The woman was cooking bacon when the 150-pound animal entered the home by ripping a patio screen door, parks and wildlife officials said. The woman safely left the home through her front door when she saw the bear.

Wildlife officers previously relocated the bear from a residential neighborhood. The animal returned to look for food and wildlife officials made the decision to kill the bear.

## Police charge man after high-speed chase

**WI** LA CROSSE — Prosecutors have charged a Mindoro man in connection with a police chase that reached speeds of 120 mph.

The La Crosse Tribune reported that Frederick Clements, 22, faces charges of first-degree recklessly endangering safety and fleeing an officer, both felonies. The counts were filed Friday in La Crosse County Circuit

## Police charge man after high-speed chase

**WI** LA CROSSE — Prosecutors have charged a Mindoro man in connection with a police chase that reached speeds of 120 mph.

The La Crosse Tribune reported that Frederick Clements, 22, faces charges of first-degree recklessly endangering safety and fleeing an officer, both felonies. The counts were filed Friday in La Crosse County Circuit



RODELIO V. SOLIS/AP

## Moving a piece of history

Movers carefully lift a 37-foot dugout canoe used by a Mississippi bootlegger in the 1930s onto a display brace Friday. The Tupelo gum tree canoe, which was used to transport kegs of illegal whiskey in the Mississippi Delta, is part of an upcoming exhibit at the Mississippi Department of Archives and History's Two Mississippi Museums. The museums in Jackson, Miss., have been closed over coronavirus concerns, but are scheduled to reopen in July.

### Court.

According to the criminal complaint, police in West Salem tried to stop Clements on April 20 after spotting him doing 45 mph in a 25 mph zone on a residential street in a Mitsubishi Eclipse convertible with no license plates.

Instead of stopping, Clements accelerated and then ran a stop sign. The officer chasing him reached speeds of up to 113 mph before calling off the chase.

Clements turned himself in later that night, the complaint said. He told police he fled because he was close to getting his license back and didn't want an operating after suspension citation. He said that he knew he was driving recklessly and passing in a no-passing zone at 120 mph, according to the complaint.

Clements turned himself in later that night, the complaint said. He told police he fled because he was close to getting his license back and didn't want an operating after suspension citation. He said that he knew he was driving recklessly and passing in a no-passing zone at 120 mph, according to the complaint.

## City approves \$100K loan to repair sinkhole

**IL** GRAND TOWER — Grand Tower city leaders have approved a \$100,000 emergency loan to repair a sinkhole that has been getting bigger and deeper since flooding overwhelmed the Mississippi River in the small southern Illinois city last year.

At first, the sinkhole "was just a small area," Fire Chief Dennis Wright said. But earlier this

year, the road buckled and the hole grew. It now spans nearly an entire intersection and has brought the sewer system to a halt.

Wright said that he expects repair work to begin next week. Some of the loan will be used to purchase a 6-inch portable pump and electrical hookups for flood pumps in case of a power outage.

The emergency loan is only a temporary solution. Grand Tower is waiting on about \$4.5 million in flood recovery funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Those funds are intended for the repair of sinkholes and damaged streets, and to replace storm drains and water mains.

## THE CENSUS

**7** The number of tons of medical marijuana sold in Arkansas in just over a year, according to the Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration. DFA said Saturday that 22 dispensaries have sold 14,714 pounds of marijuana, making over \$92 million since the first dispensary opened in May 2019. Sales are expected to surpass \$100 million by July 1, DFA said in a news release. Data provided by the department said that Green Springs Medical in Hot Springs has sold the most at just over 2,650 pounds.

month, the road buckled and the hole grew. It now spans nearly an entire intersection and has brought the sewer system to a halt.

Wright said that he expects repair work to begin next week. Some of the loan will be used to purchase a 6-inch portable pump and electrical hookups for flood pumps in case of a power outage.

The emergency loan is only a temporary solution. Grand Tower is waiting on about \$4.5 million in flood recovery funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Those funds are intended for the repair of sinkholes and damaged streets, and to replace storm drains and water mains.

month, the road buckled and the hole grew. It now spans nearly an entire intersection and has brought the sewer system to a halt.

Wright said that he expects repair work to begin next week. Some of the loan will be used to purchase a 6-inch portable pump and electrical hookups for flood pumps in case of a power outage.

The emergency loan is only a temporary solution. Grand Tower is waiting on about \$4.5 million in flood recovery funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Those funds are intended for the repair of sinkholes and damaged streets, and to replace storm drains and water mains.

## Bear with 3 cubs shot by poacher, later dies

**MI** BRANCH TOWNSHIP — Authorities said that a bear with three cubs was shot by a poacher in northern Michigan. Officers from the Department of Natural Resources found the bear Thursday in a creek in Oceana County's Branch Township. The bear was struggling and was euthanized while the cubs were in a tree.

The DNR got a tip from someone who called a poaching hotline. The bear had likely been shot a few days earlier.

The cubs were taken to a wildlife specialist.

month, the road buckled and the hole grew. It now spans nearly an entire intersection and has brought the sewer system to a halt.

Wright said that he expects repair work to begin next week. Some of the loan will be used to purchase a 6-inch portable pump and electrical hookups for flood pumps in case of a power outage.

The emergency loan is only a temporary solution. Grand Tower is waiting on about \$4.5 million in flood recovery funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Those funds are intended for the repair of sinkholes and damaged streets, and to replace storm drains and water mains.

month, the road buckled and the hole grew. It now spans nearly an entire intersection and has brought the sewer system to a halt.

Wright said that he expects repair work to begin next week. Some of the loan will be used to purchase a 6-inch portable pump and electrical hookups for flood pumps in case of a power outage.

The emergency loan is only a temporary solution. Grand Tower is waiting on about \$4.5 million in flood recovery funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Those funds are intended for the repair of sinkholes and damaged streets, and to replace storm drains and water mains.

## New reservoir named for Omaha tribe leader

**NE** OMAHA — A new flood mitigation reservoir in Nebraska is being named Big Elk Lake in honor of Chief Big Elk, a leader of the Omaha tribe.

Directors of the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District Board announced the unanimous decision Thursday.

Rudi Mitchell, the great-great-grandson of Chief Big Elk, said that Big Elk had a gift for bringing settlers and the Omaha tribe together in a peaceful manner.

## Man dies after crash on new motorcycle

**FL** LAKELAND — A Florida man died after crashing a motorcycle that he had owned for less than a week, authorities said.

The crash occurred Tuesday morning at the Carlton Arms of South Lakeland apartment complex, the Ledger reported.

Stephen Wheeler, 63, was pulling out of a garage and sped off across a street, hitting a raised concrete curb, the Polk County Sheriff's Office said. The motorcycle then traveled down a steep embankment and began to overturn, ejecting Wheeler from the seat, deputies said. Investigators said that Wheeler, who wasn't wearing a helmet, hit his head on a fence at the bottom of the embankment.

Rescue workers were able to take Wheeler to a nearby hospital, where he was pronounced dead Thursday, officials said.

Rudi Mitchell, the great-great-grandson of Chief Big Elk, said that Big Elk had a gift for bringing settlers and the Omaha tribe together in a peaceful manner.

Rudi Mitchell, the great-great-grandson of Chief Big Elk, said that Big Elk had a gift for bringing settlers and the Omaha tribe together in a peaceful manner.

From wire reports



## FACES

## Q&amp;A

# Queen Latifah: It's time to say goodbye to 'Gone with the Wind'

By GARY GERARD HAMILTON  
Associated Press

Some criticized HBO Max's removal of "Gone with the Wind" from its streaming service—including those who wonder if it hurts the legacy of Hattie McDaniel, the first African American woman to win an Academy Award—but Oscar nominee Queen Latifah says good riddance.

"Let 'Gone with the Wind' be gone with the wind," said the Emmy, Golden Globe and Grammy winner in an interview last week.

Latifah, who portrays McDaniel in Ryan Murphy's Netflix "Hollywood" series, says the story behind McDaniel's Oscar win is not as shiny as the golden trophy. "They didn't even let her in the theater until right before she got that award. Someone came outside and brought her into the auditorium. She wasn't even allowed to sit in there. And then she had to read a speech that was written by a studio. You know that's not what the hell she wanted to say," she said.

"Then after that, all she could do was play the same kinds of roles ... So the opportunities at that time and the way that those in power in that business were relegating us and marginalizing us and not allowing us to grow and thrive after that was just terrible. And a lot of that is still around today."

Latifah spoke to The Associated Press while promoting her Queen Collective initiative, which seeks to highlight up-and-coming female filmmakers of color. She discussed George Floyd's death, her feelings about her lyrics being chanted by protesters and more.

Answers have been edited for brevity and clarity.

**AP: What are your thoughts on the protests following George Floyd's death?**

"This is like nothing I've ever seen in my life. And it's also the fact that it's happening worldwide. It's time, you know? It's time. What an opportunity we have right now. I can only liken it to what it was like for me as a kid, as a teenager—young 20s, early '90s when there was apartheid in South Africa, and we weren't with that. And rappers, we stood up and used our voices, and

everybody used their voices.

**We're seeing corporate America and brands embracing Black Lives Matter. Do you think it's just popular to do so now or is it a sincere effort to bring change?**

"I think it's a mixture ... we're seeing things that have been coming for a long time, and this is the powder keg. This is the perfect storm, if you will, for the opportunity for change to come. So we shouldn't stop—we shouldn't take our foot off the gas. I read something Viola Davis posted, and ... it ended with 'Don't take your foot off the gas,' and that has sat in my mind and that has been my slogan in my brain every day.

**This is your second year with the Queen Collective. Was there anything you learned or changed this year?**

"The only thing that's expanded my mind is that we need more support and we need to make more movies. We need more production because the same thing (happened) last year: we were able to do two films, (but) we got over 60 submissions last year ... These amazing women filmmakers have shown that not only do they tell that unique, interesting, cool story(ies)—not just cool, but stories that need to be told. But they also hire diversely behind the camera, which gives people experience.

Queen Latifah portrays "Gone with the Wind" actress Hattie McDaniel, the first African American woman to win an Oscar, in the Netflix series "Hollywood."

Netflix/AP



## Academy delays '21 Oscars because of coronavirus effects

For the fourth time in their history, the Oscars are being postponed. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and the ABC Television Network said Monday that the 93rd Academy Awards will be held April 25, 2021, eight weeks later than originally planned because of the pandemic's effects on the movie industry.

The Academy's Board of Governors also decided to extend the eligibility window beyond the calendar year to Feb. 28, 2021, for feature films, and delay the opening of the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures from December until April 30, 2021.

"Our hope, in extending the eligibility period and our Awards date, is to provide the flexibility filmmakers need to finish and release their films without being penalized for something beyond anyone's control," said Academy President David Rubin and Academy CEO Dawn Hudson in a joint statement.

Oscars nominations will be announced on March 15 and the nominees luncheon will be on April 15.

The film academy has been grappling with how to handle the pandemic's near shutdown of the theatrical exhibition and film production and festival business since mid-March.

The British Academy also decided to delay its awards, the academy announced Monday.

The BAFTAs will be held on April 11, rather than the previously announced Feb. 14. The academy has also changed eligibility rules so that films whose theatrical releases were curtailed or switched to on-line-only releases will be eligible for consideration.

The British awards are usually held a week or two before the Oscars and have become an important awards-season staging post.

From The Associated Press

# New this week: Neil Young, 'Miss Juneteenth,' Padma Lakshmi

Associated Press

Here's a collection curated by The Associated Press' entertainment journalists of what's arriving on TV, streaming services and music platforms this week.

## Movies

**"Miss Juneteenth":** In Channing Godfrey Peoples' leisurely first feature, Turquoise Jones (Nicole Beharie) is a single mother and former beauty queen, once crowned Miss Juneteenth, who wants her teenager daughter, Kai (Alexis Chikaeze), to follow in her footsteps. Peoples' film will debut Friday on-demand on Juneteenth, the annual holiday commemorating the end of slavery in the U.S. "Miss Juneteenth" isn't about that history but the contemporary African American struggle to remain in the middle class. Turquoise is juggling two jobs and a lot of regret, and Beharie imbues her life with strength and dignity.

**"Disclosure":** Sam Feder's documentary, premiering Friday on Netflix, surveys trans representation in film and TV. It's a history wrought with painful caricatures, cruel punchlines and dubious erasure. But it's also a joyful, celebratory journey that

chronicles the increasing presence of trans actors and filmmakers in Hollywood, and the difference they're making for a larger trans community. With Laverne Cox (a producer), Lilly Wachowski, Mi Rodriguez and others.

## Music

**Bob Dylan:** It's been eight years since the legend Bob Dylan released an album of original material. He's back with "Rough and Rowdy Ways," which comes out Friday and sounds "moody, reflective, meditative, befuddling, funny and awe-inspiring," according to Associated Press critic Scott Bauer.

**Neil Young:** Neil Young also has a new album out on Friday, although he finished it 45 years ago. Young, notoriously known for shelving fully completed albums throughout his career, is releasing the 12-track set "Homework," originally planned to be released after his 1972 multi-platinum effort, "Harvest."

**John Legend:** Singer, songwriter, piano player, EGOT winner and father of two John Legend is putting out a new album Friday called "Bigger Love." On the same day, which is Juneteenth, Legend and Ali-

cia Keys will battle in the latest "Verzuz" series on Instagram at 8 p.m. EDT. Two days later on Father's Day, Legend will host the variety special "John Legend and Family: A Bigger Love Father's Day" (ABC, 8 p.m. EDT). Special guests include Chrissy Teigen, Stevie Wonder, Shaquille O'Neal, Anthony Anderson, Common, Jesse Tyler Ferguson and Scottie Pippen.

— AP Music Editor Mesfin Fekadu

## Television

**Padma Lakshmi,** a longtime judge of Bravo's "Top Chef," created and hosts the new Hulu documentary series "Taste the Nation," which celebrates the food of American immigrants and indigenous people. It's sort of food as resistance. "Taste the Nation" sees Lakshmi go to the Texas border city of El Paso and talk to locals about the wall. She goes to South Carolina to go crabbing and explore Gullah Geechee food. She goes to Las Vegas to spend time with Thai immigrants and to Arizona to forage for Native American ingredients. The show premieres Thursday.

Writer Peter Morgan may be famous for focusing a lot on Queen Elizabeth II ("The Crown") on TV and "The Audience" on

stage), but he also earned praise for spotlighting another state leader: Richard Nixon. Morgan's "Frost/Nixon" is about the 1977 TV interviews between talk show host David Frost and the disgraced ex-president, where some 45 million Americans watched Nixon admit "I let the American people down." Ron Howard's 2008 screen adaptation hit Netflix on Tuesday starring its Broadway leading men—Michael Sheen (later to be Tony Blair in "The Queen") and a stunning Nixon by Frank Langella. The film comes just as Nixon, presidential legacies and journalistic ethics are hot topics right now.

**The ESPYs,** ESPN's annual celebration for all things sports, isn't going to let a halt in most professional sports stop it this year. For the first time, the show will feature three hosts in remote settings and a changed focus. Instead of honoring the past year's top athletes and moments in sports, the show is celebrating heroism and humanitarian aid. Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson, soccer star Megan Rapinoe and three-time WNBA champion Sue Bird will preside over the two-hour broadcast airing Sunday on ESPN.

— AP Entertainment Writer Mark Kennedy

## STARS AND STRIPES

Max D. Lederer Jr., Publisher  
Lt. Col. Marci Hoffman, Europe commander  
Lt. Col. Richard McClintic, Pacific commander  
Caroline E. Miller, Europe Business Operations  
Joshua M. Lashbrook, Pacific Chief of Staff

## EDITORIAL

Terry Leonard, Editor  
leonard.terry@stripes.com  
Robert H. Reid, Senior Managing Editor  
reid.robert@stripes.com  
Tina Croley, Managing Editor for Content  
croley.tina@stripes.com  
Sean Moores, Managing Editor for Presentation  
moores.sean@stripes.com  
Joe Gromelski, Managing Editor for Digital  
gromelski.joe@stripes.com

## BUREAU STAFF

## Europe/Mideast

Erik Slavin, Europe & Mideast Bureau Chief  
slavin.erik@stripes.com  
+41(0)6 3615.9350, DSN (314)583.9350

## Pacific

Aaron Kidd, Pacific Bureau Chief  
kidd.aaron@stripes.com  
+81.42.552.2511 ext. 88380, DSN (315)227.380

## Washington

Joseph Caccioli, Washington Bureau Chief  
caccioli.joseph@stripes.com  
(+1)202.886-0035  
Brian Bowers, Assistant Managing Editor, News  
bowers.brian@stripes.com

## CRUCIAL

Mideast  
Robert Reisman, Mideast Circulation Manager  
robert.reisman.na@gmail.com  
xscruciation@stripes.com  
DSN (314)583.9111

## Europe

Karen Lewis, Community Engagement Manager  
lewis.karen@stripes.com  
+49(0)631.3615.9090, DSN (314)583.9090

## Pacific

Mari Mori, Customer Help@stripes.com  
+81-3 6385.3171; DSN (315)227.7333

## CONTACT US

## Washington

+1(202) 886.0003  
633 3rd St. NW, Suite 116, Washington, DC 20001-3505

## Reader letters

letters@stripes.com

## Additional contacts

stripes.com/contacts

## OMBDSMAN

## Ernie Gates

The Stars and Stripes ombudsman protects the free flow of news and information, reporting any attempts by the military or other authorities to undermine the newspaper's independence. The ombudsman also responds to concerns and questions from readers, and monitors coverage for fairness, accuracy, timeliness and balance. The ombudsman welcomes comments from readers, and can be contacted by email at ombudsman@stripes.com, or by phone at 202.886.0003.

Stars and Stripes (USPS 04417900) is published weekly during except Dec. 25 and Jan. 1) for 50 cents Monday through Thursday and for \$1 on Friday by Pacific Stars and Stripes Unit 45002, APO SF 96301-5002. Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, CA. Postmaster: Send address changes to Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO SF 96301-5002.

This newspaper is authorized by the Department of Defense for members of the military services overseas. However, the contents of Stars and Stripes are unofficial, and are not to be considered as the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government. As a DOD newspaper, Stars and Stripes may be distributed through official channels and use appropriated funds for distribution to remote locations where overseas DOD personnel are located.

The appearance of advertising in this publication does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense or Stars and Stripes of the products or services advertised. Products or services advertised shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

© Stars and Stripes 2020

stripes.com

## OPINION

## 3 mistakes the Trump campaign can fix

By RAMESH PONNURU  
Bloomberg Opinion

President Donald Trump doesn't want you to pay attention to the polls, which on average show him losing badly to former Vice President Joe Biden in November — losing much worse than he was to Hillary Clinton at this point in 2016. But you don't have to believe the public polls to see how poorly Trump's re-election campaign is going. You can just listen to the campaign's communications director.

Tim Murtaugh said, "Our internal data consistently shows the president running strongly against a defined Joe Biden in all of our key states." That comment, decoded, means that the campaign has been running a poll that lays out attacks on Biden before asking respondents how they will vote — and even that poll doesn't find Trump winning most key states.

Congressional Republicans have a lot of ideas on how Trump could improve his standing. Most of them amount to wishing the president were an entirely different person: less impulsive, less attracted to nutty conspiracy theories, less volatile. But Trump is also making three mistakes that are within his power to change.

He is, first, spending too much time talking about the wrong things. David Frum has pointed out how different Trump sounds now than he did in 2016. Then, he beat conventional Republican politicians who dwelt on issues that didn't move most voters, like deficits and productivity. He addressed issues that voters cared about more than the governors and senators did, such as manufacturing and immigration.

These days Trump is more apt to be

talking about issues that obsess him but have limited purchase among his core supporters and none outside it. There's Obamagate, a convoluted theory about the previous administration's alleged attempts to abuse power to undermine the current one. Not one voter in 100 could explain it. Since Trump wrote, Trump has repeatedly and baselessly suggested that MSNBC host Joe Scarborough is a murderer. Those messages — that Trump is a victim and his persecutors are monsters — have little to do with voters, and are unlikely to influence anyone who isn't already deep in Trumpland.

Trump is, second, placing himself further from the center of public opinion than he did in 2016. Back then, he presented himself as a dealmaker and competent manager who would hire the best people, and wasn't tied to Republican orthodoxy. He talked about reining in Wall Street and ensuring paid leave for new parents. He said he had no objection in principle to socialized medicine. Fewer voters saw him as conservative than he seen previous Republican presidential nominees that way. Over the course of his presidency, perceptions have changed: A lot more voters now consider Trump "very conservative."

Some of those voters are presumably very conservative themselves, and are happy about how many of his policies have been standard Republican fare. As president, Trump has signed a corporate tax cut but has barely exerted himself to raise infrastructure spending. Occasional rhetoric in favor of gun control has led to almost no action. Governing this way has enabled Trump to enjoy very high support from Republican voters. A large fraction of the people who voted for third-party

candidates of the right in 2016 are likely to back him this November. But Trump's repositioning to the right will probably cost him more votes than it gains him: There is substantial evidence that the perception of moderation is electorally beneficial.

He cannot undo the decisions that have modified his ideological image. But he also doesn't seem to see a reason to try. He keeps catering to very conservative voters who are already with him rather than working on keeping wavering supporters or winning over nonsupporters. If you're pleased by Trump's retweeting of a video that complains that people are exaggerating George Floyd's virtues, you're already sure to vote for him. If you're not sure to vote for him, it's the kind of thing that explains why you're not.

A third mistake is Trump's insistence on portraying his opponent, "Sleepy Joe," as a senile bubblehead. Voters know that neither of these candidates is Cicero and don't seem to hold it against either. But what's especially self-defeating about this campaign tactic — which the entire Republican Party has followed — is that it rearranges public expectations by Biden's benefit. Every time top Republicans mock Biden as a surefire disaster on the campaign trail, they are lowering the bar for how well he has to do in the fall and, especially, in the debates.

Biden is the front-runner in the presidential race. Trump is helping him to run, simultaneously, as the underdog. It is a promising strategy, but not for Trump.

Bloomberg Opinion columnist Ramesh Ponnuru is a senior editor at National Review, visiting fellow at the American Enterprise Institute and contributor to CNN News. This column does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editorial board or Bloomberg LP and its owners.

## To retake the House, GOP must win this seat

By HENRY OLSEN  
The Washington Post

Scranton, Pa., is best known as the site of the television comedy "The Office." It is also the largest city in Pennsylvania's 8th Congressional District, a must-win seat if Republicans are to have any chance of retaking the House. The district is nestled in the Keystone State's northeast corner. This region was once a coal-mining center, attracting immigrants from all over Europe. That legacy remains in museums and demographics; Luzerne is the only American county where Poles are the largest ethnic group. But coal mining left years ago, and for many, the district now feels like one of the forgotten places where the future happened yesterday.

That shows in the seat's income, race and education demographics. The median income is only \$53,000, well behind the nation's roughly \$60,000 median. Roughly 64% of the 8th district's adult older than 25 are white, less than the college degree. Whites overall make up nearly 84% of the seat's citizen voting-age population. White, blue-collar, economically left-behind — it's no wonder the district is a classic example of an "Obama-Trump" seat.

President Donald Trump won this district by nearly 10 points, reversing Mitt Romney's 12-point margin in 2012. That massive 22-point shift in the margin is larger than that in all but two districts in the nation. Those seats — Minnesota's 8th and Ohio's 6th — are also ancestrally Democratic areas with declining economies, rusting factories and closed mines. Minnesota's 8th was one of the GOP's only two pickups in 2014, suggesting that this enthusiasm for Trump transfers to Repub-

licans overall.

The Republican nominee in Pennsylvania, Jim Bognet, fits the district like a glove. He's a local boy, having grown up in Hazleton and starring in the Hazleton High football team. Bognet's grandfather was a coal miner and his dad started a trucking business, giving him a classic blue-collar background. He left Hazleton to go to Penn State, becoming the first in his family to graduate from college. From there he got an MBA and a JD from UCLA and was an economic development adviser to California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. He was also a Trump administration official but resigned to return to his hometown and make his run.

Bognet's television ads during the primaries show that he and his team understand the district and its voters. The first ad was shot at his dad's company after the lockdowns began. Showing trucks stuck on the lot because of the pandemic, Bognet promised to "make China pay — for the lives they told, the jobs they stole and the lives we lost." His second ad emphasized his local roots, showing him at a field where he kicked the winning field goal at the first game played at Hazleton High's new stadium. It also emphasized his hawkishness on China, opposition to illegal immigration and support for Trump. Bognet's bio, the issues he talks about and his Trump ties are all in line with the district and its unit loyal Republicans with Trump-loving former Democrats.

I spoke recently with Bognet about the campaign, asking him how he plans to contrast himself with Democratic incumbent Rep. Matthew Cartwright. He noted two main areas of difference: background and education. Cartwright graduated from a Canadian boarding school and went to college

in London, leading Bognet to tell me, "My family came from a coal mine and Matthew Cartwright came from a country club." He slammed Cartwright's vote for impeachment and alleged the incumbent backs illegal immigration; "bad trade policies that shipped our jobs to China"; and the "Green New Deal" from Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y. It's hard to unseat an incumbent, but this is exactly the kind of contrast for a Republican to draw to win a blue-collar, Obama-Trump seat like this.

Nevertheless, it's still unclear whether House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., and the National Republican Congressional Committee will invest much in Bognet in the fall. McCarthy endorsed one of Bognet's opponents, Earl Granville, in the primary. While the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee and the allied House Majority PAC have already reserved \$1.4 million in the Scranton media market to defend Cartwright, neither the NRCC nor its allied super PAC, the Congressional Leadership Fund, has followed suit. This is mind-boggling as the Scranton media market is one of the cheapest in the country, with ads likely costing only \$50 to \$65 per gross rating point this fall. That's a fraction of the cost in huge media markets such as Houston, Philadelphia and New York, where the CLP has already reserved an estimated \$10 million to flip seats that Hillary Clinton carried.

The NRCC failed to back candidates in seats like this in 2018 only to find the underlying partisan trends still made for close races. Republicans should hope they've learned from that mistake and back Bognet to the hilt.

Henry Olsen is a Washington Post columnist and a senior fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center.

## OPINION

## Active-duty military already stretched too thin

By ANDREW VERNON  
AND OLIVIA ANTIGUA

Special to Stars and Stripes

For the 1% of the population who volunteer their service to this nation, putting on the uniform is a privilege and an honor. In our recent conflicts, soldiers have deployed on multiple occasions to protect and defend our great nation. What we cannot afford is to put these men and women in a position that goes against everything for which they have trained and sacrificed. We are outraged about George Floyd's murder, and the images of him being slowly killed by police will be another tragic mark on our nation's history. His death is one of many in a long string of injustices, which people have been fighting for centuries in this country. The current attempts to protest racial injustice have not risen to the level of insurrection, and people are justifiably upset.

We do not condone violence and looting, but it is up to governors to activate the National Guard when violence erupts locally. Infringing on states' rights to make that decision is not necessary at this point, and could lead to the violation of individual rights to peacefully protest. Invoking the Insurrection Act to try to force the military to potentially violate constitutional rights to protest could seriously weaken not only the military but also the public's perception of our military. The difference between using our National Guard in localized emergencies versus invoking the Insurrection Act of 1807 with active-duty soldiers is that National Guard members are meant to provide states with protections during civil unrest and natural disasters. The Insurrection Act would place active-duty service members on our streets, which is an atypical method of delivering protections. Our active-duty service members are not meant to serve on streets across America and could jeopardize the respect



RICH PEDRONCELLI/AP

**Members of the California National Guard stand watch at the Downtown Commons area of Sacramento on June 1 during a protest of racial injustice.**

Americans have for them. "Those who remember the last time the Insurrection Act was used, during the 1992 Los Angeles riots, warn that President Donald Trump could undo decades of progress between police and the communities they serve if he invokes it now," states journalist Alicia Victoria Lozano.

Our leadership in Congress, and the current administration, either appeared quiet on the issue or made inappropriate comments leading to additional violence. It's difficult to say whether our leadership coming together and producing a strong message denouncing Floyd's death could have reduced violence. They did not appear to do so as politics continued to mix with violence. Our service members have been called to hold the line on streets across America, but protesters are not enemies.

They are a voice for Floyd, a voice for black Americans, a voice for all Americans. We need to change our policies and reduce the use of unnecessary force immediately. Our leaders in this country need to come out of their shells, wake up, and deliver some real leadership using their hearts and minds.

There are a number of concerns related to our National Guard and active-duty service members being deployed on the streets. The first is military readiness. Readiness is our military being trained to meet demands of assigned missions. With multiple conflicts ongoing around the world, we cannot afford to have our forces stretched too thin.

The second concern is military morale. Our military has been serving in the longest war in our nation's history. With multiple deployments leading to injuries from

mental health to loss of limbs, separation of families, and financial hardships, morale has become a real concern over the last decade. Putting them at odds with their fellow citizens will not help. You cannot add political upheaval, a broken justice system, poor policing, and putting our military on the streets into the same bucket. If we have this amount of problems at the same time, what has been accomplished over the past three years?

Watching these men and women be asked to hold a line on Main Street America is painful. We cannot put our military in a position that causes outrage, leading to lost hope and a misunderstanding of what their job entails. Our service members do not belong in a fight with our own citizens when we are not actually experiencing an insurrection.

Let's put to rest the idea of active-duty service members on our streets. It's time to retrain our entire police force across the nation and retrain annually. Police departments need to have better oversight by state and federal governments. Each department needs to be checked for officers who keep their jobs despite failing to perform responsibly. Police unions need to be overseen for their protections of bad officers, and qualified immunity should be done away with.

This horrific event needs to serve as a final opportunity to learn, and make lasting change so we never have to go through something of this magnitude again. And let's ensure that our service members are respected for their service and sacrifice, not put in the uncomfortable position of backing political campaigns.

Andrew Vernon, a former career employee at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and a veteran of the U.S. Army, is the founder and president of Andrew Vernon & Associates, a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting veterans and their families. Olivia Antigua, a senior at the University of Kentucky, is a legislative intern for Andrew Vernon & Associates.

## Ruling on LGBTQ rights is a power play by Gorsuch

By NOAH FELDMAN  
Bloomberg Opinion

In one of its most important decisions in years, the Supreme Court has interpreted federal anti-discrimination law to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or transgender status. In a surprise to most observers, the decision was 6 to 3, and written by Justice Neil Gorsuch, one of Donald Trump's appointees.

The decision marks Gorsuch's most significant move thus far to take on the mantle of the late Justice Antonin Scalia as the intellectual leader of the conservative wing of the court. That may sound strange and counterintuitive: After all, Scalia harshly opposed landmark decisions expanding gay rights, and it's difficult to imagine him having joined the Gorsuch opinion.

And indeed, Justice Samuel Alito explicitly made Scalia the linchpin of his dissent, insisting (not implausibly) that Scalia could possibly have been on board with a decision like this one. "The court's opinion is like a pirate ship," Alito memorably wrote. "It sails under [Scalia's] flag, but what it actually represents is a theory of statutory interpretation that Scalia exhoriated."

Gorsuch's play might well frustrate. Conservatives may be briefly gratified by the outcome of this case. But as liberals and mostly liberal law professors — who make or break judicial reputations. And

liberal legal scholars, who have not liked Gorsuch much thus far, are now going to have to hold him up as a model of judicial honesty. He has applied his method to produce a result against his presumed political preferences. That makes him a hero of legal principle, at least for the moment.

Armed with that reputation, Gorsuch can make the case for himself as a leading judicial intellectual. It worked (to a degree) for Scalia, who was treated by liberals as a serious jurisprudential figure despite deep disagreement with his premises and his conclusions.

The ground on which Gorsuch is fighting is the theory of statutory interpretation known as "textualism." The basic idea is that, when interpreting federal law, judges should not ask what the authors of the law meant to say, or try to divine legislative intent from the congressional record or the political context. Rather, textualism says that the overwhelming focus of statutory interpretation should be the words of the law itself, the text.

Pushing this theory was one of Scalia's main contributions to contemporary legal thought. In his mind, textualism discouraged judges from using interpretation to make the law say something different from what the law actually said.

As applied to Title VII, the classic 1964 anti-discrimination law, the textualist idea is very simple. The law prohibits discrimination "on the basis of sex." To dis-

criminate against somebody because of sexual orientation necessarily entails discriminating on the basis of sex. After all, if you're discriminating against a man because he is attracted to men, you would not be discriminating against him if he were a woman who is attracted to men.

The same is true for transgender status. If you are discriminating against somebody for identifying with a gender that differs from their biological sex at birth, you are necessarily discriminating on the basis of sex — because you would not be discriminating against the person if they had the opposite biological sex.

Gorsuch's opinion follows this textualist logic. He got not only all the liberals to join him, but also Chief Justice John Roberts, who loves to show the world that the court's decisions aren't narrowly partisan, thus shoring up the institution's legitimacy (and, cynics would say, building up capital he can later spend reversing liberal precedents).

Alito's anguished response was to quote Scalia as saying that laws should be understood "to mean what they conveyed to reasonable people at the time they were written." Alito pointed out that in 1964, no one thought that banning discrimination on the basis of sex would include banning homophobic or transphobic discrimination.

Gorsuch, Alito maintained, was "updating" an old statute to make it fit new morals — exactly the thing Scalia was trying

to block by creating textualism in the first place. Hence, the pirate ship metaphor.

The problem with Alito's objection isn't only that no one thinks Gorsuch was trying to get a liberal result. It's that if Alito's objection were valid, it would undercut textualism itself by turning it into a theory of legislative intent — asking not what the law says, but what it was meant to say. There is a professed new law at Harvard University and "sex" as interpreted by Gorsuch compared to its meaning in 1964.

The upshot is that Gorsuch has done the thing only law professors love (and we love it a lot): He has applied his theory consistently — even when his own political team will not like the result. Now he must be credited with that. This decision is a landmark. And it will mean liberals must treat Gorsuch as a serious justice, not just a Trump minion. This in turn will help Gorsuch's bid to become the new Scalia.

Over time, judicial conservatives will forgive Gorsuch — in the long run, homophobia and transphobia aren't winning causes. And liberals will remember that Gorsuch gave the country a significant win for human equality. You can't take that away from him.

Noah Feldman is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist and host of the podcast "Deep Knowledge." He is a professor of law at Harvard University and was a clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice David Souter. His books include "The Three Lives of James Madison: Genius, Partisan, President."



# SUMMER DIGITAL SALE

BUY 6 MONTHS,  
GET 6 MONTHS FREE FOR  
**\$19.99**

Whether you are...  
home



traveling



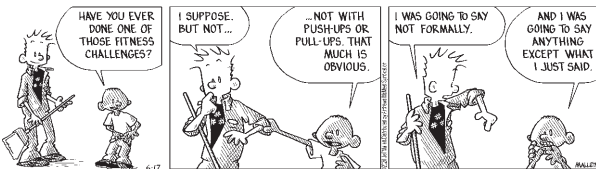
or PCSing.



USE CODE **6FREE** AT [STRIPES.COM/SUBSCRIBE](https://www.stripes.com/subscribe)

STARS  STRIPES.

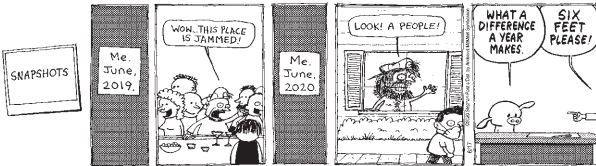
Frazz



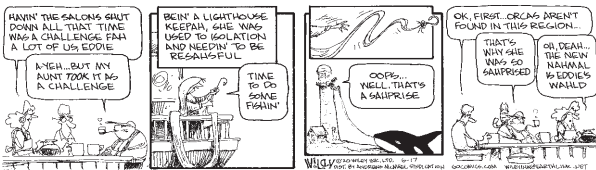
Dilbert



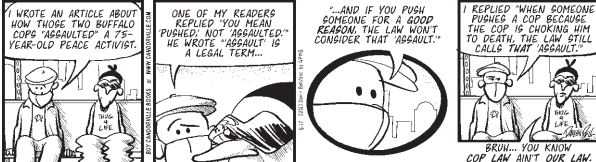
Pearls Before Swine



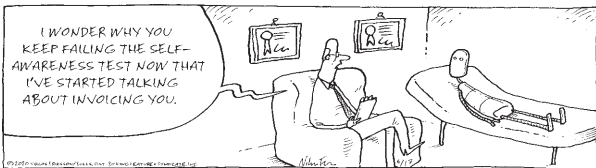
Non Sequitur



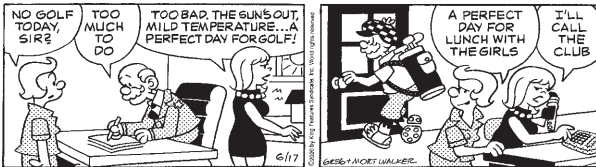
Candorville



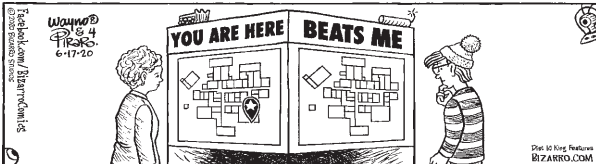
Carpe Diem



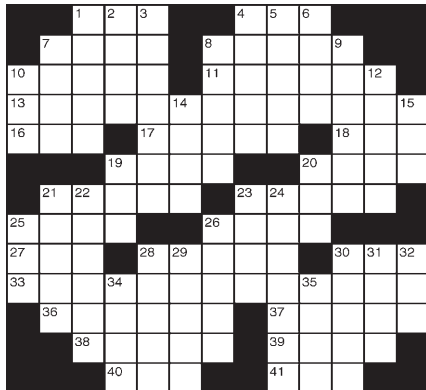
Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword



### ACROSS

- 1 Upscale auto
- 4 Berlin's country (Abbr.)
- 7 Jai —
- 8 Packing heat
- 10 Future oak
- 11 Conked
- 13 Supermarkets
- 16 British ref. work
- 17 Impudent
- 18 "As I see it," to a texter
- 19 Microwaves
- 20 Bard's river
- 21 Skilled
- 23 Viral web sensations
- 25 Begged
- 26 Very small batteries
- 27 Recede
- 28 Dianne of "The Birdcage"
- 30 Buddy
- 33 Tens, at some sports events
- 36 Actress Brennan
- 37 Cologne's river
- 38 Old photo tint

### 39 French river

- 40 Objectivist Rand
- 41 Stir-fry pan

### 19 Last letter in

- London
- 20 Mornings (Abbr.)
- 21 "Tiny Alice" playwright

### DOWN

- 1 Vital fluid
- 2 Artist Chagall
- 3 Apple variety
- 4 Icky
- 5 Unoccupied
- 6 Seized vehicle
- 7 Farm fraction
- 8 Void
- 9 Infer
- 10 In the past
- 12 Audition CDs
- 14 Engrossed
- 15 Junior
- 22 Rubbish
- 23 Church service
- 24 Lose face
- 25 Vigor
- 26 Insurance giant
- 28 Lachrymose
- 29 Strand during a blizzard
- 30 Invigorating
- 31 Painter Magritte
- 32 Sugary suffix
- 34 Dog bane
- 35 Columbus' home

### Answer to Previous Puzzle

SCAR	HBO	T	TATA
COPE	ARK	URIS	
ASPS	BASEMENT		
BASEHIT	GUSTO		
	TAT	SOL	
SUDSY	BASTION		
IMA	REX	WHO	
BASHFUL	SPOON		
	ARG	PRE	
MOORE	BASTERS		
BASKETRY	ALAN		
ASHE	RAE	LOGO	
STAN	AGE	SNUB	

### 6-17

### CRYPTOQUIP

KYUPHTY GS KQOS TYTGT  
BQ KY RYIS TQIY PVV BNY  
BLGY, UQHVO SQH TPS L'G

PUNLZF QHB P VLRZF?  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DO YOU SUPPOSE A SPOOKY MONSTER COULD REACH INTO MY LOUVERED WINDOW COVER? I SHUTTER TO THINK!

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals B

# SCOREBOARD/COLLEGE FOOTBALL/NHL

## Sports on AFN

Go to the American Forces Network website for the most up-to-date TV schedules.  
myafn.net

## Deals

### Monday's transactions

**BASEBALL**  
Major League Baseball  
**National League**  
**SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS** — Signed undrafted free agent OF Carter Williams.  
**CHICAGO CUBS** — Agreed to terms with undrafted free agents OF Bradles Beesley, INF Scott McKeon, LHP Scott Kopek, RHP Graham Lounsbury, RHP Ben Leeper, RHP Bailey Reed OF Jacob Wetzler.  
**MILWAUKEE BREWERS** — Signed undrafted free agent 2B Drew Smith.  
**ST. LOUIS CARDINALS** — Agreed to terms with OF Alec Burleson.  
**WASHINGTON NATIONALS** — Signed C Brady Lindley and LHP Mitchell Parker.  
**AMERICAN LEAGUE**  
**LOS ANGELES ANGELS** — Agreed to terms with LHP Adam Semlin.  
**TEXAS RANGERS** — Agreed to terms with undrafted free agents C Fernando Amaro, C Brady Smith, RHP Dylan McCarty, RHP Josh Stepien, RHP Nick Krauth, RHP Connor Sechler and RHP Colton Snyder.  
**NEW YORK YANKEES** — Agreed to terms with undrafted free agents RHP Carson Coleman, RHP Ocean Gabonira, RHP Trevor Holoway and RHP Jared Lesar.  
**FOOTBALL**  
National Football League  
**BUFFALO BILLS** — Signed RB Zack Moss to a four-year rookie contract.  
**INDIANAPOLIS COLTS** — Signed WR Michael Pittman Jr. to a three-year contract.  
**SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS** — Signed head coach Kyle Shanahan to a three-year contract extension through 2025.  
**HOCKEY**  
**BOSTON BRUINS** — Agreed to terms with undrafted free agent C Fernando Amaro to a three-year entry level contract.  
**MINNESOTA WILD** — Signed D Oskari Laakkonen to a three-year entry level contract.  
**ST. LOUIS BLUES** — Agreed to terms with F Ryan Reaves on a two-year contract extension.  
**SOCCER**  
Major League Soccer  
**SEATTLE SOUNDERS** — Signed M Josh Atencio and M Ethan Dolberg.  
**COLLEGE**  
**TENNESSEE** — Named A.J. Artis Director of Football Sports Performance.

# Gundy's OAN support angers RB

## Hubbard tweeted about Oklahoma State coach's shirt, threatened boycott

By CLIFF BRUNT  
Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Oklahoma State running back Chuba Hubbard and coach Mike Gundy appear to have ironed out their differences for now.

Hubbard suggested Monday he may boycott the program after Gundy was photographed



Gundy

wearing a T-shirt promoting the One America News Network, a far-right news channel that has been praised by President Donald Trump.

Gundy is seen in a photograph on Twitter wearing the shirt with the letters OAN. In a tweet responding to the photo, Hubbard said: "I will not stand for this. This is completely insensitive

to everything going on in society, and it's unacceptable. I will not be doing anything with Oklahoma State until things CHANGE."

Hubbard gained support from past and present Oklahoma State players. The school's president and athletic director issued statements supporting black athletes, condemning insensitive behavior and showing concern about the responses to the tweet without directly calling out Gundy.

Hubbard, who is black, has been more active on social media since George Floyd, an unarmed black man, died after a white Minneapolis police officer pressed his knee against



Sue Ogrocki/AP

Oklahoma State running back Chuba Hubbard, left, is being touted as a Heisman candidate.

Floyd's neck for several minutes. Hubbard has been supportive of protests that erupted around the world after Floyd's death.

Gundy and Hubbard later appeared together on a short video on Twitter. Gundy said he met with the team and will make adjustments.

"In light of today's Tweet, with the T-shirt I was wearing, I met with some players and realized it's a very sensitive issue with what's going on in today's society," he said. "So we had a great meeting and (I was) made aware of some things some players feel like that can make our organization and our culture even better than it is here at Oklahoma State. I'm

looking forward to making some changes, and it starts at the top with me, and we've got good days ahead."

Hubbard apologized for using social media to air his concern instead of going directly to Gundy.

"I'll start off by first saying I went about it the wrong way by tweeting," Hubbard said. "I'm not somebody that has to tweet something to make change. I should have went to him as a man. I'm more about action. So that was bad on my part. But from now on, we're going to focus more on bringing change, and that's the most important thing."

# Voice: NHL has never had a history of speaking out on societal issues

## FROM BACK PAGE

accounts, a larger fan base among whites than people of color.

NHL players have no sustained track record of speaking out on societal issues, perhaps part of the reluctance that is generally found in hockey. There was no collective outrage after Akin Aliu, Devante Smith-Pelly and Wayne Simmonds joined the list of players who have publicly described their personal experience with racism in hockey.

This time, the culture of silence was nowhere to be found in a league that is more than 95% white.

Sidney Crosby, Connor McDavid and more than 100 other NHL players made statements denouncing racial inequality, acknowledging their privilege and pledging to learn and do better. Tyler Seguin protested in Dallas, Zdeno Chara in Boston, while Patrick Bergeron, Tom Wilson and others made donations. Jonathan Toews met with activists in Chicago.

"It used to be as involved in this as black athletes," Winnipeg captain Blake Wheeler said. "It can't just be their fight."

It was the kind of response San Jose's Evander Kane hoped for when he called on white athletes to make their voices heard. Some called it "a perfect storm" — athletes, like everyone else, were at home during the coronavirus pandemic and able to focus on the graphic nature of Floyd's death in Minneapolis and the visceral reaction.

"People, I think, are listening more,"

said Kim Davis, the NHL's executive vice president of social impact, growth initiatives and legislative affairs. Hired in 2017, she is the highest-ranked African American in the league's hierarchy and reports directly to Commissioner Gary Bettman.

"While these things have been happening for a long time, I think the COVID pandemic has brought to

light for many the racial pandemic," Davis said. "To be able to just be paused and to stop and witness for nine minutes, somebody's knee on someone's neck and to watch the life be taken out of them ... that's your humanity (telling) you there's something very wrong with that."

"I think that's why people are speaking out. I think that's why players are speaking out," Davis said.

Seguin marched in Dallas along with retired goaltender Marty Turco and knelted for 8 minutes and 46 seconds, the time prosecutors say Floyd was pinned under the knee of a white police officer while his heart stopped. Seguin, a 28-year-old Canadian from outside Toronto, long believed matters of race were none of his business.

"It's unfortunate that it took something of this magnitude to get people's eyes open or myself having the accountability to real-

ize and look in the mirror and say, 'I've got to be better,'" Seguin said. "Am I part of the stigma because I haven't thought about this, or haven't really fully realized it or understood the history of it?"

Since Willie O'Ree broke the NHL's color barrier in 1958, hockey has been dotted with examples of racism. Just in the last decade, Simmonds had a banana thrown at him and P.K. Subban and Joel Ward were subjected to racist social media posts after scoring playoff game-winning goals. Smith-Pelly was taunted in the penalty box. As recently as April, New York Rangers prospect K'Andre Miller had a video chat during the pandemic hacked by someone who posted a racial slur hundreds of times.

Junior and youth hockey are filled with similar stories, too.

It seems like a lifetime ago, but it has only been six months since Aliu's comments on racism in hockey rocked the league. Bill Peters — who Aliu said used racist language toward him earlier in their careers — resigned as coach of the Calgary Flames and the NHL formed councils to address the issues. The growth in the number of players talking about racism now in the NHL seems logical, at least to Aliu.

"It's a good step in the right direction, so I'm happy to see that," he said, then paused. "But I feel like it's long overdue."

AP Hockey writer John Wawrow and AP sports writer Josh Dubow contributed.

## Sabres fire GM Botterill

BUFFALO, N.Y. — The Buffalo Sabres fired general manager Jason Botterill on Tuesday in a dramatic change-of-course three weeks after co-owner Kim Pegula said his job was secure.

In announcing the decision, the Sabres promoted senior vice president of business administration Kevin Adams as Botterill's successor.

"The decision was made after many candid discussions with Jason during a full review of our hockey operations," Kim and her husband, Terry Pegula, said in a statement. "We recognized we have philosophical differences regarding how best to put ourselves in a position to compete for a Stanley Cup."

Botterill's dismissal represents a major reversal after Kim Pegula backed the GM in May.

Pegula acknowledged at the time that the decision might not be popular with a win-starved fan base. She cited the GM's familiarity with the team and its needs as being invaluable with the Sabres entering an extended offseason as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

With a 30-31-8 record, Buffalo finished 13th in the Eastern Conference.

— John Wawrow, Associated Press



# AUTO RACING/GOLF



WILFREDO LEE/AP

Fans wait for the start of a NASCAR Cup Series race Sunday in Homestead, Fla. NASCAR is hoping to have 30,000 fans for its All-Star race in Bristol Tenn., next month.

## NASCAR wants 30,000 fans for All-Star race

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — NASCAR is set to allow up to 30,000 fans at the track in Bristol next month when it moves the All-Star race out of Charlotte Motor Speedway for just the second time in the history of the race.

If the expected attendance count holds, NASCAR would open to the largest gathering of sports fans in the United States in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic — all while numbers in some states continue to spike.

NASCAR is set to brush off those concerns and open the gates in Tennessee. Bristol holds about 146,000 fans.

The recent spike of COVID-19 cases in North Carolina sparked the move to Bristol Motor Speedway. The race will remain on the July 15 date with a 7 p.m. start time.

“The NASCAR All-Star Race is

an event known for making history, and we will enhance that legacy by hosting the event at Bristol Motor Speedway,” said Speedway Motorsports President and CEO Marcus Smith. “While Charlotte will always be recognized as the birthplace and traditional home for the All-Star Race, the current data surrounding the pandemic in North Carolina makes Bristol a better option for fan access this summer.”

The race was originally scheduled for May 16 at Charlotte. It has been held at the track nearly every year since its inception in 1985. The 1986 race was run at Atlanta Motor Speedway.

NASCAR allowed 1,000 fans of mostly military personnel this past weekend at Homestead-Miami Speedway and is expected to have no more than 4,000 fans for the Cup race at Talladega Superspeedway.

## PGA Championship staying put

First major of the year remains at Harding Park and won't have fans

By DOUG FERGUSON

Associated Press

FORT WORTH, Texas — The silence that greeted the return of the PGA Tour at Colonial will be a familiar sound for the first major of the year.

The PGA of America has submitted plans to hold the PGA Championship at Harding Park without spectators, and the San Francisco Chronicle reports public health officials have approved it.

An announcement was pending approval by San Francisco officials and was expected as early as Tuesday.

It at least sets the PGA Championship for Aug. 6-9 at Harding Park, the public course along a golf landscape near the Pacific Ocean that includes Olympic Club, Lake Merced, San Francisco Golf Club and Cal Club.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic that shut down golf for three months — the PGA Championship originally was scheduled for May 14-17 — the PGA of America had been contemplating options that included limited spectators, no spectators or even moving the championship, depending on the health situation.

Harding Park will host its first major championship, having previously been host of two World Golf Championships — one won by Tiger Woods (American Express Championship), the other by Rory McIlroy (Match Play Championship). It also hosted the Presidents Cup in 2009, and now is part of the TPC

network.

San Francisco last hosted a major in 2012, when the U.S. Open was held across the street at Olympic.

The PGA Tour returned at the Charles Schwab Challenge at Colonial with no spectators and hardly any noise except for makeshift tents at two homes and bleachers built at another home near the 16th tee. A dozen or so fans also watched from behind a chain-link fence on the front nine along the perimeter of Colonial.

Because the field at Colonial was so strong, with a leaderboard packed with big names, Xander Schauffele was asked if it felt like a major after he took the 54-hole lead.

“I think the fans sort of make majors, as well, so not having any out here is a bit tricky,” he said.

Golf returns with no fans for the first five tournaments, with limited spectators allowed at the Memorial on July 16-19. That won't last long. The following week is the 3M Open outside Minneapolis, which announced Monday it won't have spectators.

Now that the PGA of America has its plan for its major championship, the next task is the Ryder Cup. A decision is expected by the end of the month what to do with the Sept. 25-27 matches at Whistling Straits in Wisconsin.

Several players, notably Rory McIlroy and Brooks Koepka, have said it would not be worth playing this year without fans because so much of the atmosphere comes from the partisan cheering at golf's loudest event.



DAVID J. PHILLIP/AP

Fans watch from behind a fence as Brooks Koepka tees off last at Colonial Country Club in Fort Worth, Texas. Fans were not allowed on the course. The PGA Championship will be played without fans as well.

Drive away in a 2021 Ford or Lincoln at exclusive 2020 pricing!\*



Limited time only! Ask a Sales Representative for details.

MCS  
MILITARY AUTOSOURCE



LINCOLN

militaryautosource.com

\*Offer subject to change at any time on select Ford and Lincoln vehicles. Delivery not available in all areas. Ask a Sales Representative for complete offer details.   
†Somebody's got your back. Military service members are an authorized provider of the Exchange and MCS. Military Autosource is an authorized distributor for all Ford and Lincoln vehicles.   
This advertisement does not represent or imply endorsement by the Exchange, MCS/M, DOD components, or the Federal Government and is not sponsored by them. © 2020.



## MLB/WNBA

# Manfred: Season's in jeopardy after breakdown in talks

By RONALD BLUM  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred says there might be no major league games this year after a breakdown in talks between teams and the players' union on how to split up money in a season delayed by the coronavirus pandemic.

The league also revealed several players on big league rosters have tested positive for COVID-19.

Two days after union head Tony Clark declared additional negotiations futile, Manfred reversed his position last week when he said he was "100%" certain the 2020 season would start.

Deputy Commissioner Dan Halem sent a seven-page letter to players' association chief negotiator Bruce Meyer asking the union whether it will waive the threat of legal action and tell MLB to announce a spring training report date and a regular-season schedule.

These were just the latest escalating volleys in a sport viewing disagreements over starting the season as a preliminary battle ahead of bargaining to replace the labor contract that expires on

Dec. 1, 2021.

"It's just a disaster for our game, absolutely no question about it," Manfred said during an appearance on ESPN. "It shouldn't be happening, and it's important that we find a way to get past it and get the game back on the field for the benefit of our fans."

Spring training was stopped because of the pandemic on March 12, two weeks before opening day, and the sides reached an agreement

March 26 on how to revise their labor deal to account for the virus.

Since then, the hostility has escalated to 1990s levels as the sides exchanged offers. MLB claims teams can't afford to play without fans and pay the prorated salaries called for in the March deal, which included a provision for "good-faith" negotiations over the possibility of games in empty ballparks or neutral sites.

"The proliferation of COVID-19 outbreaks around the country over the last week, and the fact that we already know of several 40-man roster players and staff who have tested positive, has increased the risks associated with commencing spring training in the next few weeks," Halem wrote in his letter to Meyer, which was



DARRON CUMMINGS/AP

Cincinnati Reds pitcher Justin Shafer throws during a workout at Grand Park on Friday in Westfield, Ind. The players said MLB is intentionally delaying the start of the season to trim payroll.

obtained by the AP.

Halem sent Meyer a letter with a sarcastic tone Friday accompanying MLB's latest offer, and Meyer responded with a hostile tirade Saturday as the sides memorialized positions ahead of a possible grievance before the panel chaired by independent arbitrator Mark Irving. Halem's letter Monday asked the union for clarifications of its positions.

"I note that both the NBA and NHL, two leagues which you repeatedly reference in your letter, do not intend to resume play until about Aug. 1, and both intend to resume play at a limited number of sites with a quarantine approach," Halem wrote. "Please let us know the association's views on quarantining players in league-approved hotels (like the NBA's Disney World model) when they are not at the ballpark if conditions worsen over the next

few weeks."

Clark had issued a statement Saturday that told MLB: "It's time to get back to work. Tell us when and where." The union then said it might file a grievance seeking additional economic documents and money damages.

"Players are disgusted that after Rob Manfred unequivocally told players and fans that there would '100%' be a 2020 season, he has decided to go back on his word and is now threatening to cancel the entire season," Clark said in a statement Monday.

"This latest threat is just one more indication that Major League Baseball has been negotiating in bad faith since the beginning," Clark added. "This has always been about extracting additional pay cuts from players and this is just another day and another bad faith tactic in their ongoing campaign."

Manfred said ahead of last week's amateur draft that the chance of a season was "100%."

He reversed his position Monday.

"I'm not confident. I think there's real risk; and as long as there's no dialogue, that real risk is going to continue," Manfred said on ESPN. "The owners are 100% committed to getting baseball back on the field. Unfortunately, I can't tell you that I'm 100% certain that's going to happen."

Players said Manfred is delaying to shorten the schedule — and their pay.

"So, Rob, explain to us how you can be 100% sure that there's going to be baseball but not confident there will be baseball at the same time?" Cincinnati pitcher Trevor Bauer tweeted. "The tactic is to bluff with 'no season' again and delay another 2-3 weeks."

## WNBA plans to open season in July in Florida, minus fans



PATRICK SEMANSKY/AP

By DOUG FEINBERG  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The WNBA on Monday announced plans to play a reduced season, with a 22-game schedule that would begin in late July without fans in attendance because of the coronavirus pandemic.

The league is still finalizing a partnership with IMG Academy in Florida to play all the games at the facility in Bradenton or other nearby locations. Players and team officials for the league's 12 teams would be housed at IMG and hold training camps there.

"There's a lot to do between now and the tip of the season, now that we've selected IMG Academy" as the location to play, WNBA Commissioner Cathy Engelbert said. "My hope is the July 24 date will stick. We have scenarios and plans to lift and shift the tip of the season. It could slip to a couple of days later. We want to have the appropriate number of days for training camp."

Engelbert, who said she had a site visit at IMG, hopes to have teams in Florida by the first week of July to start training camps. The season had been postponed indefinitely in April because of the pandemic.

The WNBA would use its regular playoff format, with the top eight teams making the postseason and the first two rounds being single-elimination. The top two seeds would have byes until the semifinals. The playoffs would begin in the middle of September and end in early October.

Teams would play each other twice in the abbreviated schedule. The IMG facility has four courts, but the WNBA is exploring options to play games at other sites in the area just south of Tampa/St. Petersburg that might be better for broadcasts.

Players would receive their entire salaries for the year despite playing a schedule that's only about two-thirds the length of the 36-game one that was supposed to start May 15.

"It was an important message the

owners said to pay the players 100%," Engelbert said. "There are people taking pay cuts in the country and people being furloughed. It was a really important signal from the owners and the league."

The union said 77% of players voted in favor of the proposal. They have until June 25 to let their teams know whether they plan to play this season.

The commissioner said players who are considered high-risk for coronavirus could opt out of playing this season and still earn their full salaries.

Players with children will be able to bring a caregiver with them.

The WNBA had a lot of momentum coming from a historic collective bargaining agreement that was ratified shortly before the pandemic hit.

"We know this is not going to be perfect; it's not going to be ideal," WNBA Executive Director Terri Jackson said. "Let's see what we can do at this moment. That's really appropriate for what our country needs right now."

WNBA Commissioner Cathy Engelbert announced plans to play a reduced season, with a 22-game schedule that would begin in late July at IMG Academy in Bradenton, Fla., without fans in attendance.

## NFL

# Goodell pushes for Kaepernick's return

Commissioner says he would encourage teams to sign former 49ers quarterback

By MARK MASKE  
The Washington Post.

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell told ESPN on Monday that he would "support" and "encourage" a team to sign quarterback Colin Kaepernick.

Kaepernick has not played in the NFL since the 2016 season when, as a member of the San Francisco 49ers, he began the players' movement of kneeling during the national anthem to protest racial inequality and police mistreatment of African Americans.

"Well, listen, if he wants to resume his career in the NFL, then obviously it's going to take a team to make that decision," Goodell said. "But I welcome that, support a club making that decision and encourage them to do that."

Goodell's interview was to be included in an ESPN special to be televised Monday night that also featured the commissioners of other pro sports leagues. ESPN published Goodell's comments on its website beforehand.

"If his efforts are not on the field but continuing to work in this space, we welcome him to that table and to help us, guide us, help us make better decisions about the kinds of things that need to be done in the communities," Goodell said in the interview. "We have invited him in before, and we want to make sure that everybody's welcome at that table, and trying to help us deal with some very complex, difficult issues that have been around for a long time. But I hope we're at a point now where everybody's committed to making long-term, sustainable change."

Seattle Seahawks coach Pete Carroll said last week that he had been contacted by a representative of another team regarding Kaepernick. Carroll declined to name the team but said he took it as an indication that the team is interested in signing Kaepernick.

The NFL has taken a series of steps amid nationwide protests over the death of George Floyd while in Minneapolis police custody. The league released a video in which Goodell said the NFL was wrong not to listen earlier to its players but now will encourage their peaceful protests. That came in response to a video released by a group of prominent NFL players in reaction



DAVID J. PHILLIP/AP

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, in an interview with ESPN, said he would welcome having a team sign former 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick, who has been out of the league after he began the movement of kneeling during the national anthem.

**‘Obviously it’s going to take a team to make that decision. But I welcome that, support a club making that decision and encourage them to do that.’**

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell  
On a team signing Colin Kaepernick

tion to Floyd's death. The players called for the league to take action.

The league bolstered its social justice initiatives by announcing a \$250 million donation over 10 years to programs to combat systemic racism. Goodell told NFL employees that the league will close its offices Friday in recognition of the Juneteenth

holiday, which commemorates the end of slavery in the United States.

Some players and other observers have said the league's efforts are not sufficient unless a team signs Kaepernick. The quarterback last year settled a collusion grievance accusing the league and teams of conspiring improperly to keep him out of the sport. He worked out for a relatively small number of teams last year at an Atlanta-area high school after arrangements for a league-backed workout at the Falcons' training facility, with a larger number of teams scheduled to attend, unraveled because of disagreements between Kaepernick's representatives and the NFL.

President Donald Trump recently renewed his criticism of NFL players protesting during the anthem. Trump and some fans have characterized such protests as unpatriotic. Players have said the protests are not aimed at the flag or the military and are intended to bring attention to racial injustice.



GREGORY PAYAN/AP

Ravens linebacker Matthew Judon, right, relaxes during the Pro Bowl with Ravens teammate Marlon Humphreys.

## Ravens' Judon blasts Goodell

By DAVID GINSBURG  
Associated Press

BALTIMORE — Ravens linebacker Matthew Judon criticized the timing of NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell's assertion that the league believes "black lives matter," saying Monday that the message should have been delivered long ago.

In the wake of protests over the death of George Floyd, a black man who died after a Minneapolis police officer knelt on his neck, Goodell said on June 5, "We, the National Football League, believe black lives matter. I personally protest with you and want to be part of the much-needed change in this country."

Speaking in a video conference call with the Baltimore media, Judon said the comment was long overdue.

"It's not when Roger Goodell said black lives matter that now everybody can say it," Judon said. "I think we should have been questioning why Roger Goodell didn't say black lives matter when he was born, or when he became commissioner or when he was reelected commissioner."

"It's something people shouldn't have to say. Black lives should always matter. I don't think it's something that when one person says it, it's like, 'Oh now it makes sense.'"

Judon said the Ravens are discussing the best way to protest against racism when the season gets under way.

## Agent says Elliott tested positive for coronavirus

Associated Press

Dallas Cowboys running back Ezekiel Elliott has tested positive for the coronavirus, according to his agent.

Rocky Arceneaux told the NFL Network on Monday that Elliott was feeling OK and recovering. Arceneaux did not immediately return messages seeking comment, but a person with direct knowledge of the diagnosis told The Associated Press that Elliott had the positive test about a week ago and could be described as symptomatic. The person spoke on the condition of anonymity because the person wasn't authorized to discuss Elliott's diagnosis.

The Cowboys declined to com-

ment, citing privacy laws.

Only players who have been rehabilitating injuries have been allowed inside team facilities during the pandemic shutdown. That hasn't Elliott.

The NFL is in the process of establishing protocols for the return of players, including what would happen in the case of positive tests, but there is no timetable for their return. Training camps are supposed to start in a little more than a month.

Several players have gone public with their diagnosis, including star Denver pass rusher Von Miller.

Los Angeles Rams center Brian Allen was the first to publicly acknowledge a positive test, on April 15.



ROGER STEINMAN/AP

Dallas Cowboys running back Ezekiel Elliott tested positive about a week ago for the coronavirus, according to his agent, Rocky Arceneaux. The agent told the NFL Network that Elliott was recovering.

## 49ers give Shanahan new deal through 2025

Associated Press

The San Francisco 49ers rewarded coach Kyle Shanahan with a new six-year contract Monday after he took the team to the Super Bowl in his third season at the helm.

The Niners are replacing the three years remaining on Shanahan's original six-year contract signed in 2017 to keep him under contract through 2025. ESPN first reported the new extension.

The 49ers won just 10 games in Shanahan's first two seasons in San Francisco before a breakthrough in 2019. The Niners went 13-3 in the regular season, with the nine-win improvement the biggest in one season in team history.

San Francisco earned the top seed in the NFC playoffs and then went to the franchise's first Super Bowl in seven years. The Niners blew a 10-point lead in the fourth quarter against Kansas City in that game and lost 31-20.

But the 40-year-old Shanahan has brought needed stability to the Niners, who went through three coaches in the three seasons before his arrival. He and general manager John Lynch have worked well together and have overhauled the roster into one of the NFL's deepest.

Shanahan, the son of two-time Super Bowl champion coach Mike Shanahan, is also widely regarded as one of the best play-callers in the league.



## SPORTS



## Different tune

Goodell encouraging owners  
to sign Kaepernick » **NFL, Page 23**

# 'Overdue'

## White NHL players finally find their voice on racism

By STEPHEN WHYNO  
Associated Press

**B**rian Boyle is a 35-year-old grizzled veteran of 13 National Hockey League seasons who grew up outside Boston.

After seeing video of George Floyd's death, Boyle wanted to say something. The Florida Panthers forward, though, wasn't sure how and didn't want it to come off the wrong way. He wound up calling former teammate J.T. Brown to ask some questions — and listen. Brown is 29, black and the only player so far to protest racial injustice and police brutality during the national anthem of an NHL game, back in 2017.

The two talked about how Floyd's death had affected Brown.

"I was kind of at his mercy," said Boyle, who is white. "I just don't understand this pain. I've never had to live this pain."

Floyd's death in police custody has touched off an extraordinary reckoning of race and race relations and sports has been part of it, from European soccer to the NFL.

It has also made ripples in NASCAR, which like the NHL has predominately white athletes and, by most

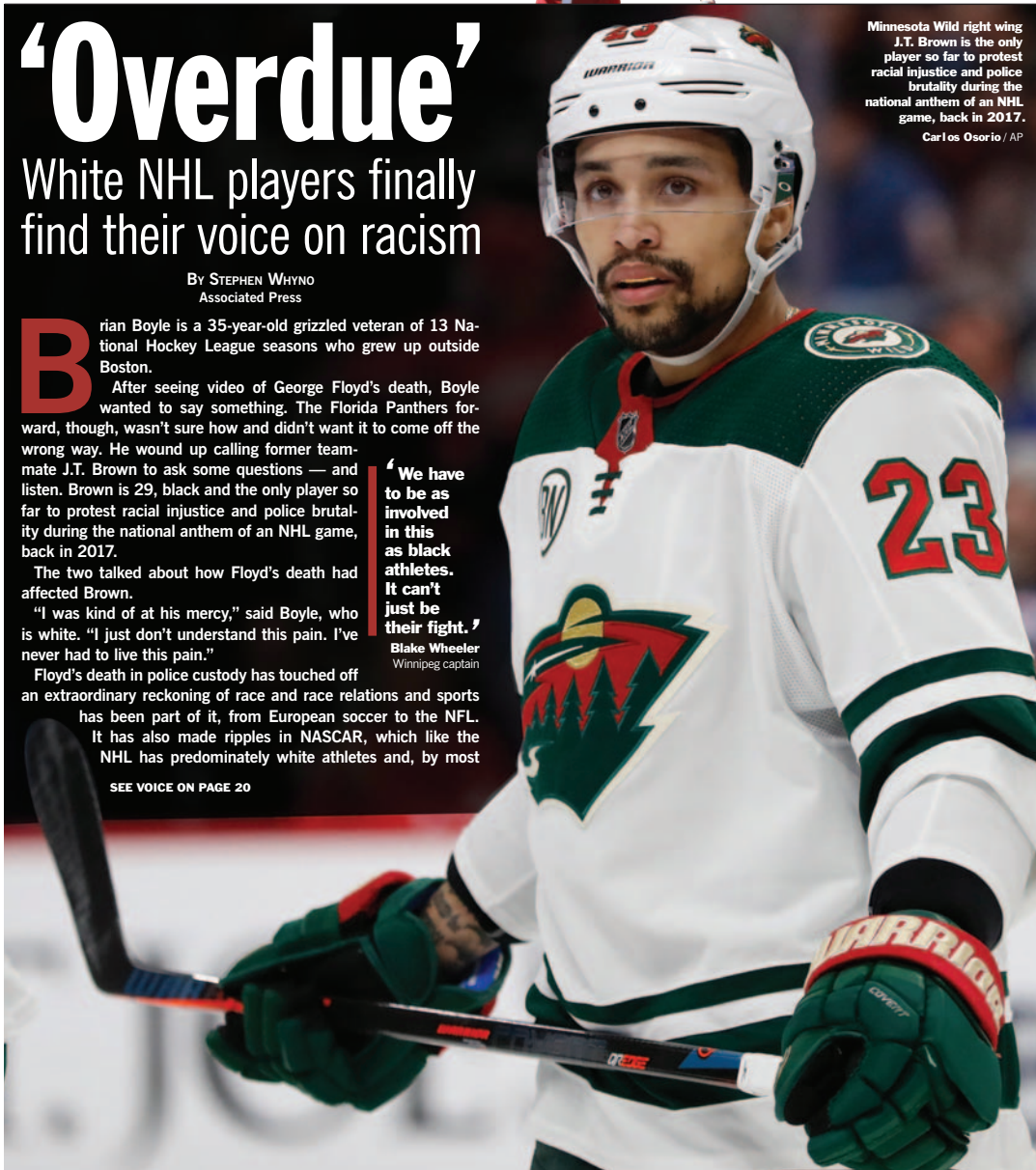
**'We have  
to be as  
involved  
in this  
as black  
athletes.  
It can't  
just be  
their fight.'**

Blake Wheeler  
Winnipeg captain

Minnesota Wild right wing  
J.T. Brown is the only  
player so far to protest  
racial injustice and police  
brutality during the  
national anthem of an NHL  
game, back in 2017.

Carlos Osorio / AP

SEE VOICE ON PAGE 20



Manfred backtracks on season guarantee » **MLB, Page 22**

